

# Save the Dates: Regional Meeting, June 18-20 in Moline, IL State Convention, July 10-11 in Weatherford, OK

#### Volume 33 Issue 1 February 2020

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#### 2020 Oklahoma State Convention

The AAUW/OK Board and Weatherford branch invite you to "save-the-date" for the State Convention in Weatherford, OK, July 10 –11, 2020. Friday features pre-Convention activities – ideas include Wind Turbine Tours, the Heartland of America Museum, and coupons for shopping in downtown Weatherford. A welcome reception on Friday evening accompanied by a Jazz trio will be held at the Lobby Lounge. Saturday will feature workshops (tentative theme: *Today's Women's Rights*); *Teen Voices* contest winners; review of the draft 2020 to 2022 AAUW/OK Strategic Plan; the State Business meeting, which includes the induction of the 2020 to 2022 AAUW/OK state officers. Saturday evening tentatively features a "dinner theatre". Stay tuned for registration and hotel information later this spring – *hope to see you in July!* 

#### 2020 Regional Convention

In lieu of a National AAUW meeting, several states are meeting from June 18 to 20 in Moline, IL. Pre-convention activities are being planned for June 17, 2020. See page 12of this newsletter for details. Please contact AAUW/OK State President Lisa Appeddu if you are interested in going – ride-sharing and room-sharing are being coordinated. It would be great to have a large delegation from Oklahoma.

#### Regional = 13 states involved in the Convention:

Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Wisconsin!

#### **AAUW/OK Re-launches the Teen Voices Contest**

In commemoration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 19th Amendment and the 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1965 Voting Rights Act, AAUW/OK is re-launching the **Teen Voices Contest**. This state-wide essay contest is open to all girls in Oklahoma who are currently enrolled in grades 9 to 12. Public, private, and homeschool entries are welcome. The topic focuses on investigating the leadership skills of an American woman or group who has led the fight for women's rights. The contest is open from **February 15 through May 15, 2020**; submissions can be made **online** (preferred) at <a href="https://usao-gcgxy.formstack.com/forms/teen\_voices\_contest">https://usao-gcgxy.formstack.com/forms/teen\_voices\_contest</a> or **mailed** to the AAUW/OK. Awards from AAUW/OK are \$250 for first prize, \$125 for second prize, and \$75 for third prize. Winners will present their essays at the AAUW/OK State Convention on Saturday, July 11, in Weatherford, OK.

For more information, plus contest rules and the entry form for paper submissions, visit <a href="https://usao.edu/directory/images-docs/documents/teen-voices-essay-contest.pdf">https://usao.edu/directory/images-docs/documents/teen-voices-essay-contest.pdf</a> or contact Mrs. Rose Untershuetz, AAUW/OK Public Policy Chair, at <a href="mailto:Tulsarose@sbcglobal.net">Tulsarose@sbcglobal.net</a>. For mailed submissions, the entry form must be stapled to the front of the essay submission and sent to Faye Henson, P. O. Box 535, Weatherford, OK 73096.



#### **New This Spring --**

#### **AAUW/OK NCCWSL Funding Request Form**

AAUW/OK budgets funds each year to support students to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL).



Last year, the Tulsa branch kindly donated additional funds. Due to an increased number of student requests, AAUW/OK will now use a **digital form** to formalize the process.

Any student attending a 2- or 4-year colleges and universities in Oklahoma is welcome to apply for NCCWSL support. **Professional students** in medicine, law, pharmacy, and nursing are also encouraged to submit a request. Due to state funds being limited, students are expected to apply for a NCCWSL scholarship from the National AAUW, to do early-bird registration to NCCWSL, and to seek other lines of financial support.

Students selected to receive support from the AAUW/OK must provide receipts for reimbursement after attending NCCWSL, plus the awardee must share their experience with AAUW members -- examples include speaking at the 2020 State Convention on Saturday, July 11 in Weatherford, OK, or submitting an article (500 to 750 words) and pictures for the state newsletter. In addition, social media posts and tagging the AAUW/OK Facebook page during NCCWSL are encouraged.

Application deadline is Friday, March 13, 2020 11:59 PM CST. Please share this link to the digital form http://swosu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\_54kaQn3OGYtrfzT with AAUW/OK members, AAUW student branches, and other potential interested students: Students will be notified by Wednesday, April 15 of amounts awarded. For more information, contact Dr. Lori Gwyn, AAUW/OK College/University Relations Co-Chair, at (580) 774-7010 or email lori.gwyn@swosu.edu.

#### Branch News and Highlights

#### Chickasha

At the October meeting, Jeannette M. Loutsch gave a talk on her trip with 13 students to Little Rock, Arkansas to attend a speech given by Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg. The trip was amazing and it was remarkable to hear Justice Ginsberg speak about her life and career. The University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma students were excited to be given the opportunity to see her "up close and personal" as they said. The recording of Justice Ginsberg's talk is available at <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?">https://www.youtube.com/watch?</a> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?">v=XeRLPRhzjRU&fbclid=IwAR3WYJ4gbhLPjsgPfX45UaRfcIqKxpaqmMjrQlObZ5Ihd</a> 2k9vKwNb7TnKo

Chickasha branch members (I to r) Linda McElroy, Betsy Phillips, Jeannette M. Loutsch, and Angie Lewis met on Dec. 7 for dinner at Napoli's Italian Restaurant before Betsy and Angie headed to the Chickasha Community Theater Christmas production.

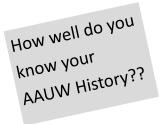
Submitted by Jeannette M. Loutsch



#### Duncan

The Duncan branch kicked off their year with a game of AAUW Jeopardy!. Three teams were created, and everyone was challenged regarding their AAUW knowledge. At our September meeting, we hosted Julie McKinney, a member of Pathways to Healthy Living, to discuss the opioid epidemic in our state and county. In October, Duncan branch member, Gretchen Taylor, hosted us at the Red River Technology Center where she teaches in the Pre-Engineering program. Two of her female students were there to share what this program means to them. Finally, kicked off our annual "soup" fundraiser. Last year, from the proceeds, we were able to give a \$500 scholarship to a girl from Duncan High School. Submitted by Cyndi Crook

Alex Trebek wasn't available so Cyndi Crook stood in for him at the Jeopardy! board. Branch members seated (starting with lady with glasses) Kristen Arrington, Martha Burger and Edith Suiter.





#### **AAUW Jeopardy! Questions:**

\$200 Question: Who was the first AAUW American Fellow?

\$400 Question: AAUW members purchased one gram of radium for which professor's research?

\$800 Question: Which astronaut received an AAUW fellowship to complete her doctorate?



#### **Edmond**

Twenty-seven applications were received for the Edmond Girls' Hall of Honor. The Application Review Committee of Pat Snodgrass, Diana Campo, and Shelli Wasson, narrowed the field down to the top two or three applications for each school, then the branch members made the final selection of one student to represent each of the six middle schools in Edmond. Please join the Edmond Branch in honoring the 7th grade girls at the *Girls' Hall of Honor* event on Sunday, March 8 from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM at the Central Middle School, 500 E 9th St., Edmond, OK 73034. Presentations begin at 2:00 PM. RSVP to joannslp@cox.net; additional information will be provided on parking. The event is normally held at the Edmond Public Library. Due to extensive renovations, the library is unavailable for this year's event.

#### Tahlequah

The Tahlequah branch awarded a \$1000 scholarship for the spring 2020 semeter.to Bailey Hallum, a speech-language pathology graduate student at Northeastern State University, Thank you to our Scholarship Selection Committee members: Linda West, Irene Wickham, and Jeanna Wing.

Upcoming news: We will be hosting a Woman to Woman conference this fall titled, "Women's Health through Nutrition & Exercise" and will feature several guest speakers, a panel discussion, information booths, and prizes including a drawing for a complementary AAUW membership. The Woman to Woman committee members are Chandra Scroggins, Aletha Rodgers, Carrie Moore, Cindy Myhre, Sara Barnett, and Sarah Turner McGowen. Submitted by Aletha Rodgers



Bailey Hallum has found her passion!

#### Meet the

#### Scholarship Winner

Bailey Hallum is a first-year Graduate student at NSU studying Speech-Language Pathology. She plans to work with children, possibly in a school setting, but she is open to exploring the field and the many facets it has. Bailey is also very interested in discovering the place that speech therapists have in neonatal intensive care units, and how they help in the feeding and early speech intervention of premature babies.

#### Tulsa

Tulsa branch board member, Donna Mathews, alerted the Tulsa board of an immediate need for feminine hygiene products by the Tulsa Community College (TCC) FUEL Pantry. The board recognized that this was an important opportunity to support Tulsa women in pursuit of higher education. Branch members brought supplies to the Holiday Tea and to the January General Membership Meeting. The Tulsa branch plans to continue providing ongoing support for this project as long as the need exists. Submitted by Rose Unterschuetz

#### **PROGRAM NOTES**

January 1	ll Eo	qual Pay in	Women's	Sports —	Linda Brooks
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February 8 Tulsa Race Massacre — Jan Graham

March 14 Women in Poetry — Doris Piatak

April 11 Preventing Being Scammed — Cynthia Cole

May 8 Officer Installation — Pam McDonald

#### Fundraiser Report:

The current total raised at our fall fundraiser is now \$830.00. The proceeds will be divided between the TCC FUEL Pantry and the SAGE STEAM Camp at Weatherford. We were pleased to meet David Adams, who works with the FUEL Pantry and is a new AAUW member, at our Holiday Tea.

#### Weatherford



September 20 – AAUW/Weatherford branch welcomed potential members to *Coffee, Cookies, and Conversation* at the SWOSU Student Union.

October 4 – At an AAUW/Weatherford branch luncheon meeting, Dr. Wendy Yoder shared the findings from her doctoral study on supporting the persistence of students of color at a predominantly white institution through faculty academic advising. Picture not available.



October 23 -- SWOSU Serves students, AAUW@SWOSU students, and AAUW/ Weatherford branch members stuffed shoeboxes with giveaways for the dorms and gift bags for the Miss SWOSU pageant to raise breast cancer awareness.



November 25 – Branch members celebrated the holidays at the annual Party Potluck and Dirty Santa gift exchange.



## SAGE STEAM Camp is Gearing Up for Its Third Year! June 7 to 13, 2020

Up to fifty, seventh grade girls across the state of Oklahoma will experience the third year of the Southwest Alliance for Girls' Enrichment in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Humanities, and Mathematics (SAGE STEAM) Camp from June 7 to 13, 2020.

This residential summer camp is hosted on the Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) campus with the help of AAUW branch members and supporters from across the state. Campers interact with mentors and experience hands-on opportunities which feature and integrate the STEAM fields. They also develop transferable

skills in collaboration, communication, critical thinking, and creativity to enrich personal and professional growth. New this year, the camp will pilot a middle school teacher training program, with the goal of increasing the number of girls being impacted in their hometowns across the state. The STEAM Team is ultimately interested in sparking an interest in young women to pursue high school coursework, extracurricular activities, and a higher education in STEAM-related areas.

The camp, which originated as an AAUW Tech Trek camp, continues to receive generous support from AAUW members. To make a donation, help with student interviews in March for selecting campers, to visit camp in June, or anything else, please contact <a href="mailto:sagesteamcamp@gmail.com">sagesteamcamp@gmail.com</a> or 580-774-3148.

**Note:** There are other STEM opportunities hosted by AAUW branch members -- these include the Girl Scouts STEAMeet on Saturday, March 28, in Weatherford (contact: Dr. Lori Gwyn, AAUW Weatherford, <a href="lori.gwyn@swosu.edu">lori.gwyn@swosu.edu</a>) and USAO Summer Food Camp in Chickasha from July 13-19 or July 20-24 (contact: Dr. Jeannette Loutsch, AAUW Weatherford, <a href="joutsch@usao.edu">joutsch@usao.edu</a>).

2019 SAGE STEAM Campers had a new field trip stop at Baker Hughes during their field trip to OKC.



#### President's Message

The AAUW/OK Board coordinated three of this years' meetings with branches from around the state of Oklahoma. The Board kicked off the year by joining the Tulsa branch for their September luncheon meeting. Representative Melissa Provenzano shared her experiences of serving her first term in the Oklahoma House of Representatives. State Board members Faye Henson, Lisa Appeddu, Rose Unterschuetz, Susie Hull, and Gabrille Jones attended the Tulsa luncheon.

Susie Hull, President-elect, went to the Tahlequah branch meeting in September on the Friday before the Tulsa meeting (and she was at the Tulsa meeting, too!). Linda West talking about Tahlequah branch history at the meeting, and at their dinner meeting.



The Tahlequah branch enjoys a tasty dinner with State Board members.

Linda West shows an old AAUW logo to the Tahlequah branch.



In November, the board joined the Weatherford branch for brunch. AAUW/OK International Affairs Chair, Tugba Sevins, hosted a program featuring the cultural and gender-based challenges experienced by three international women students attending Southwestern Oklahoma State University. The students were from India, Taiwan, and Cyprus and the students proudly told us about their native countries.



Lisa Appeddu, Students from Cyprus, India, and Taiwan, Tuga Sevins.



Weatherford branch members, state board members, and SWOSU students.

#### President's Message, continued

In January, Edmond branch President, Jo Ann Bullard, joined the board for lunch at meeting hostess, Shelli Wasson's home. Jo Ann invited the board to join their celebration of the fifth year of the *Edmond Girls' Hall of Honor* on Sunday, March 8, at 2:00 PM in the Edmond Central Middle School. The Edmond Public Library is under renovation and unavailable for this year's event. Central Middle School stepped up and suggested use of their school for the AAUW event. Next year, the event will return to the Public Library.

The next meeting in March is TBD, but potentially will involve the Alva branch.



Submitted by Lisa Appeddu

AAUW/OK board members (I to r) Lisa Appeddu, Faye Henson, Jeanna Wing, Shelli Wasson, Jeannette M. Loutsch, Susie Hull, Rose Unterschuetz, and Lori Gwyn. Diana Campo, Edmond branch member, also attended the meeting on January 18.

The back of Kelsey's tee shirt says, "The 19th Amendment: The right to vote shall not be denied on account of sex."

#### Her Flag 2020: Sewing of the Star Field

AAUW/OK Board Members were excited to see this amazing flag being sewn in celebration of the 100-year anniversary of the 19th Amendment. Artist Marilyn Artus is constructing an 18'x26' flag with 36 stripes representing each of the 36 states that took part in the ratification. The stripes were sewn to the star field during the event.

(I to r) President –elect Susie Hull, Alva branch, Kelsey Hull, President Lisa Appeddu, Weatherford branch, and Recording Secretary Lori Gwyn, Weatherford branch.





(left) Oklahoma City artist Marilyn Artus sews Her Flag at the special event at the Oklahoma History Center. Historian, Dr. Sunu Kodumthara, poet Angie LaPaglia, and singer/songwriter Carter Sampson accompanied Marilyn while sewing.

#### AAUW/OK State Board, 2018-2020

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**Legal Advocacy Funds** 

Open

#### **AAUW Art Contest**

#### **Duncan Branch Member is a FINALIST!! Vote Now!**

Message from Dianna Morgan, Duncan branch, via email 02/05/2020:

Hi Friends, I'm forwarding this information to you in hopes that you can spread the word among your branch members to get online and vote. If you know of any other branches which have photos entered, let me know and I'll spread the word to Duncan members. Martha Burger's photos are really beautiful and it would be wonderful if one gets selected. She has included the names here. Be looking for "floating" umbrellas, but be sure to look at the name (Seeking Shelter from the Storm). There are a couple of other umbrella shots. The Seeking Solace photo is of an open door in a antiqued looking, ivied arch. Again, look for the name because there is another open doorway shot. Thanks for spreading the word! Dianna Morgan, Duncan branch

Message from Martha Burger, Duncan branch. Friends, On the first link below you can look at all of the art work for this year's AAUW art contest. You can enlarge the pictures by clicking on them.

1. https://art.aauw.org/contests/art\_contest/

The following link goes to the login in for the voting page. You need your member ID and password.

2. <a href="https://www.aauw.org/login/?redirect\_to=aauw\_redirect/">https://www.aauw.org/login/?redirect\_to=aauw\_redirect/</a> wp redirect art contests vote.php

Or, you can go to <a href="https://www.aauw.org/contests/">https://www.aauw.org/contests/</a> to access both pages. My photos are called "Seeking Solace" and "Seeking Shelter from the Storm."

Thank you! Martha Burger, Duncan branch



## Reminder: Submit Branch Accomplishments to The AAUW Five Star Program

The Five Star National Recognition Program recognizes branches for aligning their work with the AAUW strategic plan and other initiatives that foster the organization's mission of advancing gender equity for women and girls. Stars may be earned in the areas of Programs, Advancement, Communications & External Relations, Public Policy & Research, and Governance & Sustainability. In accordance with the program, National AAUW encourages each member to donate \$30 to the Greatest Needs Funds. The AAUW/OK board will be posting how-to videos on the Oklahoma AAUW & Friends Facebook page this spring. It is hoped this program will be continued in the 2020-21 AAUW year.

For more information, see <a href="https://www.aauw.org/resource/five-star-national-recognition-program/">https://www.aauw.org/resource/five-star-national-recognition-program/</a>

## Get to know National AAUW Board Member Andrea (Dia) Cirillo

Dia is the National AAUW Board member who is assigned to the Oklahoma AAUW Board and branches. She is a member and past-president of AAUW/Tennessee, as well as a member and past-president of her Murfreesboro branch. She has been very helpful to the AAUW/OK board, and AAUW/OK is hoping she will be able to attend the AAUW/OK State Convention in July. Learn more about Dia at <a href="https://www.aauw.org/candidate/dia-cirillo/">https://www.aauw.org/candidate/dia-cirillo/</a>.

Your may contact her at dia@spring.team.

#### 2020 State Convention, continued

New officer induction, review of the 2020 to 2022 strategic plan, and the state business meeting will take place on July 11, along with other programming. The AAUW/OK welcomes member input on speaker suggestions or program ideas. Stay tuned for more information.

### Calling for Nominations for the Next AAUW/OK Board

The Nominations Committee is seeking members who would be willing and able to serve from July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2022, in the elected positions of Treasurer, Secretary, VP of Membership, VP of Programs, and President-Elect. In addition, members may volunteer to serve as state committee chairs -- these ultimately will be appointed by upcoming president, Susie Hull. A list of these positions and current board members may be found: <a href="https://aauw-ok.aauw.net/leadership/">https://aauw-ok.aauw.net/leadership/</a>

Contact Nominating Committee Chair, Shelli Wasson (<u>Shelli-wasson@omrf.org</u>) or President-Elect Susie Hull (<u>drsusiehull@gmail.com</u>), if you are interested in any of these positions.

AAUW/OK needs you!

#### AAUW/OK State Board 2018-2020 - continued

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**Customer Service** 

800-326-AAUW (2289)

Monday-Friday, 10am to 5pm ET



#### 2020

#### **Regional Convention**

June 18-20, 2020 Hyatt House Hotel East Moline, IL

Registration Opens Soon!

#### Confirmed plenary speakers—

- Kim Churches, Chief Executive Officer, AAUW;
- Kendra Davis, Senior Vice President Advancement & Partnerships, AAUW;
- Lisa Maatz, Former VP Government Relations, AAUW;
- Denise Lieberman, Director, Advancement Project's Power and Democracy Program;
- Dr. Angie Maxwell, Director of the Diane Blair Center of Southern Politics and Society, University of Arkansas;
- Michelle Duster, author and great-granddaughter of Ida B. Wells.

Early Bird Registration (before May 15) \$175
Regular Registration (after May 15) \$225
Includes lunch on Thursday & Friday, dinner on
Thursday

Optional Riverboat Cruise Dinner \$50.95
Friday evening aboard the
Celebration Belle

Register at https://aauw-il.aauw.net/

Convention Hotel
Hyatt House
111 Bend Blvd, E. Moline, IL 61244
Register at
https://aauw-il.aauw.net/

Double or King rooms are \$149, tax included and include a full breakfast.

#### Interesting Programming:

- Economic Security Panel
- ERA Passage in Illinois
- Celebration of 19th Amendment
- WorkSmart--bring your own device for the online workshop
- Town Hall with Kendra Davis
- Branch Program Sharing--bring your best ideas and take some home!
- Breakout sessions on Cyber Security, Running for Office, Title IX, Diversity & Inclusion, and more!

Catch up with old friends and meet new friends from 13 states—Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Wisconsin!

#### Durant

September: Annual Salad Supper to start off the new year. At this meeting, the five Scholarship Recipients were invited; each student told about themselves and their career plans. Then each student received her \$700 check from funds raised by the branch.



October: The Durant branch met at the Durant Intermediate School (DIS) in the Art Department. The DIS teacher had planned cute craft projects for us, which we completed!

November: Leaders of the Widows Ministry and the J127 projects spoke to us about the two projects, based on the Scripture James 1:27. J127 takes girls who have aged out of Foster Care and will live in a dorm-like situation, while either holding down a job or getting an education (or both). Members of the Community will help guide the girls to develop skills, self esteem, and self improvement.

December: Annual Christmas Party where members bring finger foods and a toy for Toys for Tots. A note of thanks for the donated toys was written to members of the Durant branch. "Collecting Toys for Tots has been an amazing turnout with lots of Santa's helpers. Thank you to the women of AAUW! They brought so many toys they covered my desk. A very special thank you to them."

#### **AAUW Research**

Our studies and reports have long been a cornerstone of AAUW's work. Aimed at reaching policy makers, opinion leaders and the general public, our research gives us a voice in the national conversation on equity issues.

This year, we updated our hallmark study, *The Simple Truth about the Gender Pay Gap*, with new census data showing that women still only get about 82 cents for every dollar paid to a man. We also updated *Deeper in Debt*, our research examining how student debt disproportionately impacts women.

In November, we released our new report, *Limiting Our Livelihoods: The Cumulative Impact of Sexual Harassment on Women's Careers*, which is based on data from the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, a review of academic studies and an exclusive survey of AAUW members and their networks.

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#### AAUW/OK

Shelli Wasson, Newsletter Editor

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#### **CALENDAR**

#### <u>2020</u>

June 18-19 Regional Meeting in Moline, Illinois

July 10-11 State Convention in Weatherford, Oklahoma

170,000

members & supporters

1,000

local branches

800

college & university members

National website www.aauw.org

AAUW is a top-rated 501(c)(3) charity. Donations are tax deductible.

Tax ID#: 52-6037388







