

TAKING ACTION

Kansas City Women's Organizations Receive Grants

A joyful time was had by all at the annual Waggy Awards & Holiday Luncheon at Indian Hills Country Club in December.

Nearly 40 guests gathered for a lovely meal, good conversation, and especially to learn about the organizations receiving this year's Waggy grants and how they will use the awards. Here were the recipients:

- **Assistance League of Kansas City - \$1,000** to fund clothing and hygiene kits that are given to sexual assault survivors when they come to hospital emergency rooms to report the assault.

- **Girls on the Run - \$1,500** to sponsor a team of 15 girls from a KCMO school who will participate in this character development program that culminates in a 5K run.

- **Hope House, Inc. - \$3,900** to provide legal representation for domestic violence survivors who are seeking protection orders. The grant will provide legal representation for 26 domestic violence survivors.

- **R.U.B.I.E.S., Inc. - \$3,600** for Project 100 which supports young women who are first generation college students, helping them prepare for college and sticking with them while they are in college.



(l-r) Lisa Pickard representative of Girls on the Run, AAUW-KC President Nicky Stanke, and AAUW-MO President Linda Berube enjoyed the holiday festivities at the Waggy event.



Representatives from each of the four honored community organizations attended the luncheon. (l-r) Lisa Pickard, Girls on the Run; Nancy DuVall and Lisa Block of Hope House; Linda Tyree and Sandy Short, Assistance League of KC; Chantell Garrett and Kimberly Shahib of R.U.B.I.E.S.; and Adam Brown, Hope House.

SAVE THESE DATES: MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS



- **FILM SCREENING & DISCUSSION**
THURSDAY / JANUARY 16 / 2014 / 5:30 PM
NATIONAL ARCHIVES AT KANSAS CITY
400 W PERSHING ROAD / KANSAS CITY, MO 64108

From filmmaker Kirby Dick comes *The Invisible War*, a groundbreaking investigative documentary about one of America's most shameful and best-kept secrets – the epidemic of rape within the U.S. military.

AAUW-KC, in cooperation with the National Archives at Kansas City, will present *The Invisible War*. Join us for a reception at 5:30 p.m., and the 6:00 p.m. showing followed by a panel discussion with AAUW and community leaders. The National Archives at Kansas City is located at 400 West Pershing Road, next to Union Station. RSVP – to ensure a seat – to kansascity.educate@nara.gov or by phone 816-268-8010.



- **AAUW-KANSAS CITY & SHAWNEE MISSION JOINT MEETING WITH LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS**
SATURDAY / FEBRUARY 15 / 2014
COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
LOWER LEVEL / 4601 MAIN ST / KANSAS CITY, MO
BRUNCH & SOCIAL 9:30–10 AM / PROGRAM 10–11:30 AM

Join with members from across the state line to enjoy a delicious brunch and hear a presentation by the League of Women Voters entitled "Voter Suppression". For further information contact Pam Burke at 816-361-2098 or pamelaburke2729@gmail.com.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



By the time you're reading this issue, we'll be just days away from the New Year: 2014! How time flies! AAUW-KC has been wrestling with – or should I say, dancing with – issues and situations on several fronts during the first half of our program year, and will continue to ponder as well as act on these issues during the next six months. Reaching out to members and friends, each of us will need to bring our energies to bear on several crucial matters.

Early in 2014, AAUW-KC and AAUW-MO will be launching a concerted effort to bring the Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution to the Missouri legislature for a ratification vote. Past issues of *TAKING ACTION* have included an "ERA Facts" column. In November, the entire text of the Amendment was published. The Public Policy Committee has laid the ground work and formulated a strategy that is presented in this month's column, but the implementation will take all of us, working together, to accomplish, finally for women, equality under the law. We are half the population; we are holding up half the sky, as the saying goes. Let's receive equal justice.

On the organizational front, AAUW-KC has been wrestling with (certainly the appropriate term in this case) the financial reality of continuing (and expanding?) its scholarships and grants programs for community women and girls while watching the income and reserves of the Branch decline. Last year at this time, the *Dollars for Scholars* fundraising effort was launched. Those efforts continue – in 2013 we presented the Women's Chorus concert at Ardy Pearson's home, the solicitation of contributions to the Leadership Fund in Gloria Bandstra's honor, and upcoming on January 20, 2014 a Super Soup Supper at the home of Linda Berube, AAUW-MO President (details on page 4). Other fundraising events are being planned, but again, the Branch needs the help of members and friends to plan and design the fundraisers – OR – to propose other sources of funds to supplement our efforts. Many of us feel the scholarships (Reentry, 100 High School Girls, Reentry Woman of the Year, Centennial and the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders) and the Waggy grants are the critical link to AAUW with the greater Kansas City community. *Can we continue to fund them?* To do so may require cutting programs elsewhere. Share your thoughts, concerns and ideas with any Board member and at any time.

With all good wishes for 2014,

Nicky Stanke

Nicky Stanke

President, AAUW-KC, 2013-2014

BOARD MEETING REMINDER:

JANUARY 2 / 5 PM / WALDO LIBRARY

In Remembrance...

AAUW-KC Honorary Life Member

BETTY JEAN BOND

(December 16, 2013)

Sadly missed along life's way, quietly remembered every day...

No longer in our life to share, but in our hearts,
you're always there.



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS:



magazine, "O, The Oprah Magazine." (1/29)

Oprah Winfrey rocketed to the top of the daytime talk shows with her 25-year-hit "The Oprah Winfrey Show." She is also an Academy Award-nominated actress and publisher of her self-titled

Sylvia Dillon	1/13
Jane Hatch	1/15
Karen Major	1/16
Brenda Bethman	1/23
Sara Pedram	1/23
Jane McClain	1/24
Janice McIntyre	1/28

**JOIN
OR RENEW**

Annual dues 2013-2014: \$79.00

For more details, contact Earline Bentley at earline_bentley@att.net or 816-756-5608.

Visit aauwkc.org for more news and calendar of events.

History Corner

By Ardy Pearson / Dana Perry

KC Celebration in January will remember Gloria Bandstra



With a memorial event coming up on January 11th at Just Off Broadway Theater we thought this was the perfect time to reflect on past AAUW-KC president (1998-2000), long-time member, theatre buff, world traveler, teacher and friend – Gloria Bandstra.

Excerpts from an interview with Gloria,
(AAUW-KC newsletter, Feb. 1998):

"I have found that some of my prominent characteristics parallel my first speaking accomplishments."

"My first words were "Bye-bye." That still fits as I board the airplane to travel to my next destination. When I graduated from college, my folks gave me a \$1,000 U.S. Savings Bond. I spent \$500 on contact lenses and a teaching wardrobe, \$500 on an old '53 Chevy and \$500

on a six week trip to California. That seems to exemplify my spending habits from then on. I have traveled to 49 states, Europe for a year, Africa for a summer, Central America and Canada.

"According to the family, my first complete sentence was, "I can do it myself." This statement of independence reflects my life style, various jobs I've had and places I've lived. My favorite song for Karaoke is "Don't Fence Me In!" I've lived and taught in Iowa, Michigan, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Vermont, Spain and the Kansas City area for the last twenty years.

"My first logical argument was, 'If John and Andy (my two older brothers) can do it, why can't I?'" which reflects my lifelong commitment to women's rights and civil rights. The more options from which a person can choose parallels

her or his ability to reach personal goals. Consequently, I've taught in rural and urban schools and volunteered for various political and social organizations. This paradigm also reflects my commitment to AAUW.

"The next 50 years will probably continue these patterns: traveling anywhere and any time, living as independently as possible and fighting for social justice."

Gloria passed away on September 1, 2013. Tax-deductible donations in her honor can be made to the AAUW Leadership Fund, GKCCF, 1055 Broadway, Ste. 105, KCMO 64015. (Memo line: AMER01-Leadership Memorial) For more details about the GJB Memorial Celebration, email Ellen Johnson at ellen.johnson@gmail.com or call 816-931-5288.

ERA FACTS By Joanie Shores / Public Policy

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People ask me all the time: ***“Didn’t the state ratification of the ERA pass?”***

Answer: “No!” The Equal Rights Amendment passed on March 22, 1972 in both houses of Congress and went to the state legislatures for ratification. The ERA failed to receive the requisite number of ratifications (38) before the final deadline mandated by Congress of June 30, 1982, and so it was not adopted. (A proposed amendment becomes part of the Constitution when approved by three-fourths (38) of the 50 states.) A study found legal precedence for removing the original deadline – the Madison Amendment took 203 years to be fully ratified.

HELP MAKE HISTORY! – VOLUNTEER!

Join our campaign! – Set Your Sights on Equal Rights: 18-Day ERA BLITZ!

Work for a legacy of equal rights for your daughters and granddaughters, your sisters and nieces, and for generations to come. Work to help get the ERA House Resolution passed by our Missouri legislature.

By building a huge coalition of volunteers from numerous organizations to partner with AAUW, together we'll mount a major push to secure ERA passage by the Missouri legislature during the upcoming session.

How does the campaign work? – We'll *blitz* each state representative and senator on a given day with visits from our team of volunteer constituents and 20 or more 'touches' (phone calls, letters, emails and tweets) to their respective offices. The campaign will run January 21 to February 27. Blitzes will be held Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Volunteer and show our representatives that they have lots of constituents who want to pass ERA ratification. Contact Stephanie Holthaus, steffi64110@yahoo.com/816-309-8021 or Joanie Shores, joanshores101@aol.com/660-200-5809 for more details.

A graphic for a legislative retreat. It features a large, stylized number '9' in the center, split vertically into blue and red halves. The background is filled with a pattern of stars, also in blue and red. The text 'WOMEN'S ISSUES LEGISLATIVE RETREAT' is prominently displayed in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters across the middle of the '9'. Below this, the tagline 'A day of friends, food and politics.' is written in a smaller, italicized, white sans-serif font.

**WOMEN'S ISSUES
LEGISLATIVE RETREAT**

A day of friends, food and politics.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 2014

9:00 A.M. – 2:30 P.M.

HY-VEE COMMUNITY ROOM

405 E Nifong Blvd, Columbia, MO 65201

NO REGISTRATION FEE / FOR INFORMATION, CONTACT:
314-831-5359 / sbreeze@mindspring.com
573-642-6354 / mmosley@tranquility.net



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

- **STARR WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME LAUNCH
CHELSEA CLINTON / HEADLINE SPEAKER
MONDAY / FEBRUARY 24, 2014
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-KANSAS CITY
SWINNEY RECREATION CENTER / 5030 HOLMES ST**



AAUW-KC and other organizations from the Kansas City metro area are uniting to form the Starr Women's Hall of Fame, to recognize women from the Kansas City area and preserve the legacy of their accomplishments. Chelsea Clinton, vice chair of the Clinton Foundation and daughter of former President Bill Clinton and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, will be the headline speaker.

Only 4 seats remain at the AAUW reserved tables. Your check for \$33.34 payable to Linda Berube will reserve your seat and help a student attend. Email Linda with your commitment to send a check at ljbaauw@hotmail.com. For more information and to purchase additional tickets, visit www.umkc.edu/starrhalloffame.

AAUW-KC MONTHLY EVENTS

- **JAN 10 & 24 - FRIDAY FORUM**

WALDO LIBRARY / 75TH & GRAND / KCMO / 10 AM

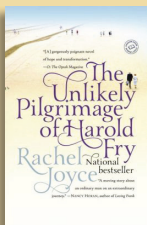
Our lively group convenes every second and fourth Friday in Room A, Waldo Library, 75th & McGee. AAUW members and non-members are welcome. Participants can bring a newspaper or magazine article, cartoon, book, etc. Topics may be educational, controversial, nostalgic, provocative, tragic or even hilarious! Our talk is well-seasoned with warm camaraderie. Afterward, there's the option to go out to lunch. For more details, contact Joanie Shores, 660-200-5809 or joanashores101@aol.com.

- **JAN 16 - CUISINE CLUB**

RED DOOR GRILL / 11851 ROE AVE / LEAWOOD, KS 66209 / 11:30 AM

RSVP to Ellen Johnson at ellen.johnson@gmail.com or 816-931-5288.

- **JAN 28 - 4TH TUESDAY BOOK CLUB**



Book for January will be ***The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry*** by Rachel Joyce. Meet Harold Fry, recently retired. He lives in a small English village with his wife, Maureen, who seems irritated by almost everything he does. Then one morning a letter arrives, addressed to Harold in a shaky scrawl, from a woman he hasn't heard from in twenty years. Queenie Hennessy is in hospice and is writing to say goodbye. But before Harold

mails off a quick reply, a chance encounter convinces him that he absolutely must deliver his message to Queenie in person. Determined to walk six hundred miles to the hospice, Harold believes that as long as he walks, Queenie will live. A novel of charm, humor, and profound insight into the thoughts and feelings we all bury deep within our hearts. For more information or to join the Book Club, please contact Jane Hatch, 816-838-7626 or janehatch@yahoo.com.

KCKCC Corner

By Patsy Kile / Janice McIntyre

Semesters have a way of winding down at community colleges as students struggle with final projects, papers and exams. In order to provide AAUW-KCKCC

students with a supportive respite from the rush, Patsy Kile and Janice McIntyre hosted an end-of-semester party featuring a potato bar and s'mores at the KCKCC Conference Center by the pond. Approximately 17 attended including officers, employees, and special guest, KCKCC President, Dr. Doris Givens.

Officers are beginning to plan for Spring 2014 activities including a Feb. 13 "Day of Beauty," Cookbook Fundraisers, and completion of scholarship applications for the Clinton Global Initiative University International Meeting at Arizona State University, March 21-23 in Phoenix. Other upcoming activities include programs related to Career Ladders, STEM Careers, a "STEM" Career Corner at the KCKCC Spring Job Fair, and more.

Student officers will hold monthly meetings on Sunday afternoons for program planning and reporting. To request our newsletter for more news and information, email kckcc.aauw@gmail.com.

All AAUW-KCKCC members would like to extend thanks and appreciation to AAUW-KC for their support, guidance, and direction and sincere wishes for a peaceful and happy new year!

DOLLARS\$ for \$SCHOLARS EVENT

MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 5-8 PM

AT THE HOME OF

LINDA & ERNEST BERUBE
13020 GRAND ~ KANSAS CITY, MO

Enjoy a warm bowl of soup and view Linda's famous Holiday decorations before they are packed away. The display includes 4 trees adorned with over 30 years of Hallmark Keepsake ornaments, and a 5th tree featuring Ernest's scroll-saw artistry.

\$10 Donation ~ RSVP to Linda at 816-809-0139
or ljbaauw@hotmail.com

Relax with your AAUW friends after the Holidays...
wine SOUP Salad bread & dessert

Proceeds will be directed to scholarship funds for AAUW-KC's annual 100 High School Girls and Reentry Woman of the Year programs.