



# The Phoenician

July/August  
2009

## President's Corner

My experience during four days in St. Louis at the 2009 AAUW National Convention, *Breaking Through Barriers*, refuses to be organized and categorized into a column. Just let me attempt to hit a few highlights.

We spent many hours and days sorting through our by-laws rewrite. Members voted down open membership. We will continue to require an Associate's Degree or equivalent for membership in AAUW.

There are many other noteworthy results of the plenary sessions. We will be moving from representative governance, in which our delegates voted on issues at national conventions, to one vote per member. Each AAUW member will cast votes either electronically or by mail.

The boards of AAUW and EF will be combined and the composition of this new joint governing board was set and new officers were elected. Pre-described regions were eliminated but our Rocky Mountain Region will be meeting in Aurora, Co. next June and we will be inviting Idaho and Montana to join us. More information about the convention business meetings can be found at <http://www.aauw.org/convention/con v2009/index.cfm> and at [http://www.aauw.org/convention/con v2009/upload/convention\\_today.pdf](http://www.aauw.org/convention/con v2009/upload/convention_today.pdf).

At one workshop I met **Anne Houle** of the Wage Project. AAUW is partnering with the Wage Project to train AAUW Members to bring Start Smart Workshops to our local campuses. These workshops prepare women to negotiate for fair salaries. Together with **Linda Blackwell**, I am working to get a train-the-trainer workshop here in Phoenix. Check out the following web site to learn more about the Wage Project and Start

Smart Workshops  
<http://www.wageproject.org/>

I attended workshops *Creating a Healthy Branch Culture*, *Branch Best Practices*, and *New Members: Fact or Fiction*. Have you ever felt lost in all our acronyms? As part of one workshop I received an AAUW dictionary that I think would make an excellent gift for new members.

I learned about a program that allows us to offer memberships to new members at full state and local dues but 1/2 of the national dues. The member must be new and at an event open to the public. This program is described on the AAUW Website under the name *Breaking Through Barriers*.

**Lilly Ledbetter** was present for the entire convention. She is truly inspiring and she raised over \$5000 for LAF by autographing everything members could cart to her table.

**Doris Turner** and I heard many inspiring speeches. Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) gave a most rousing talk about the Fair Wage legislation (continued page 2, col. 1)



Representative **Chad Campbell** poses with **Cristy Lopez** following our May Legislative Wrap-up meeting. Little did we know when programs were planned last summer that the legislative session would never end!

## *Christmas in July! Hanukkah in the Heat! Poetry in the Park!*

It's a Salad and Poetry Evening in Phoenix  
Saturday, July 25, 6 p.m.  
**Dorothy Ward's** Clubhouse  
2201 W. Marlette  
Enter her Orangeaire condo complex from Citrus Way and park immediately inside. There is plenty of parking.

Another Gourmet Grazing Event  
A Fantastic Potluck featuring your delicious salads, cornbread, hot rolls, Texas toast and all the ice cream you should eat piled high with mouth-watering toppings.

Request: Last initials  
A-N bring salads.  
O-T Cornbread, hot rolls, etc.  
U-Z Your favorite topping -- chocolate, butterscotch, nuts, sprinkles, etc.

(Of course, if you would prefer to provide your fabulous salad, or special hot fudge topping or a wonderful recipe for cornbread, please do so, but let Judith (602-995-0745) know by July 21 so we can headcount and fill in where needed.

On Site: Coffee, iced tea, paper and plastic products and Vanilla Ice Cream for a perfect dessert.

Now, the poetry part. Your own for you to read or a favorite poem you would like to share with the grazers. Several have already signed on to amuse, confuse or move with beloved stanzas.

See you on the 25th for a great evening!

## President's Message:

(Continued from page 1)

that has passed the house, and we now need to get through the Senate. Rep. Jackie Speier (D-CA) discussed equity for women. A panel (composed of Irma Herrera, Executive Director, Equal Rights Advocate; Linda Brodsky, AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund Plaintiff; Ruth O'Brien, Editor, Telling Stories Out of Court: Narratives about Women and Workplace Discrimination) told their stories and discussed The Face of Workplace Discrimination Today.

I watched a demonstration of our new on-line Membership Pilot Program (MPP) and the Member Services Database (MSD). These

convenient tools can simplify member management.

Some of the most significant and informative contacts I made were not in the formal sessions. I exchanged cards with two AAUW web masters who promised to walk us through some the problems we are running up against in creating our own new web page.

I look forward to sharing with you more of the information I gathered during the 2009-2010 AAUW year. You can visit <http://blog-aauw.org/> to read about convention events, view photos, and see what AAUW members were posting to Twitter during the convention.

During the convention all attendees were asked to call their representatives and ask them to cosponsor Paycheck Fairness Act (S. 182)

Take action! Our joint voices will make an impact. Call U.S. Senator John McCain and **leave a message urging him to cosponsor Paycheck Fairness Act (S. 182).**

In June 1963, when women were making just 59 cents on the dollar to their male counterparts, President Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act. Now it's time to make the law live up to its name.

**You can** to check out AAUW's [state-by-state data](#) so you can include the

specifics about the gender wage gap in Arizona when you call.

Call (202) 224-2235  
Washington, D.C. office of U.S. Senator John McCain  
(Please call between 9-am & 5-pm)

Ask for the Labor Legislative Assistant.

### Talking Points

1. As a constituent and a member of AAUW, I strongly urge the senator to cosponsor and support the Paycheck Fairness Act (S. 182).
2. Women continue to earn only 78 cents on the dollar to their male counterparts. With unemployment rates rising, an unprecedented number of women are now the family breadwinners – making pay equity even more critical, not simply to family economic security but also to the nation's economic recovery.
3. The Paycheck Fairness Act is a much needed update of the 46-year-old Equal Pay Act, closing loopholes, creating deterrents to pay discrimination, and empowering women to negotiate for equal pay.
4. I expect my elected officials to take strong steps that ensure workplace opportunity in the face of an economic downturn. The House did so earlier this year by passing both the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act and the Paycheck Fairness Act. I urge the senator and his/her colleagues to do the same.

***Kathleen Preece, President***

## BIRTHDAYS

### *July*

Ginny Clark-Wright  
JoAnn Cleland  
Louise Slotta  
Dorcas Walker

### *August*

None

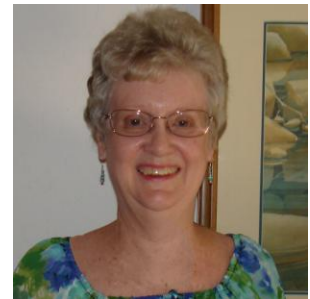
## Condolences

Our sympathies to Elizabeth Wiese on the death of her grandfather.

## Member Profiles

Please welcome new members of Phoenix Branch AAUW.

(Contact information will be included in the new directory available in September.)



**Marilyn Schiedat**

Marilyn Schiedat was born in Chicago, Illinois. She and her parents lived in Chicago until she was 6 years old. They then moved to Hammond, Indiana, where they lived for two years. In 1951, the family moved to Phoenix because Marilyn needed a dry climate for her allergies. Marilyn attended Washington Elementary School and then Maryland Avenue School (eighth grade valedictorian), followed by Washington High School. Influenced by fine teachers at Washington High and ASU, Marilyn decided to major in English and minor in French. She was graduated from Arizona State University with high distinction in 1965 with a BA in Secondary Education, with an English major and French minor. While working on her Master of Arts degree, Marilyn taught freshman English at ASU as a teaching assistant. Having earned her MA in English, Marilyn became an instructor in ASU's English Department from 1967-1971. She then moved to Glendale Community College where she taught English Composition, Introduction to Literature, and Literature of the Western World (the latter to honors and regular students). For her World Literature class (chiefly European), she has traveled several times to Europe. She retired from teaching on June 30, 2008, and now enjoys reading, volunteer work, and AAUW.



**Rhondda Wagner**

During my many travels I've attended eight different colleges and universities and lived and worked in five different states before finally settling down and graduating from Scottsdale Community College in 1992 and the onto ASU where I got my degree in Education. I achieved a degree in Selected Studies in 1996, Liberal Arts in Education degree and worked until 2005 as a Substitute Teacher teaching K-12 in Wichita, Kansas where I received sometimes as many as 20 calls a day to substitute teach in giving my best to the teaching profession. My special hobbies have been knitting (designing sweaters for special order), music, and cooking.



**Annette Mellott**

Born in Ann Arbor, Michigan, Annette earned degrees from Toledo University, ASU, and the University of Florida to further her career in educational psychology and counseling. As a part of her program for a PhD at the University of Florida, she petitioned for a deviation from the traditional statistical research for her thesis and asked for permission to do Biographical Research of a living educator in Ecuador. She agreed to go to Ecuador for a couple of months, to include education and social science components, and to submit her final

project in both English and Spanish. She successfully completed this project and was the first female to do a project of this type.

In addition, Annette has a great passion for archeology. As well as Mexico and Ecuador, she has spent time in the Middle East doing archeology work. She spent several months in Amman, Jordan cataloguing donations given to the Jordanian government.

She enjoys music, reading, and travel. She is also a volunteer at the Beatitudes' library.



**Kari Tams**

I was born in Northern California, near San Francisco, my family moved to Santa Barbara where my dad was working on his Masters/Ph.d in Latin American History. My family (mom, dad, sister and I) went to live in Rio de Janerio, for my dad to complete his studies. We were fortunate to live near the Copacabana Beach, which is where I went instead of Preschool. We traveled throughout S/A. Then, my dad was offered a teaching job at Creighton University in Omaha. We lived there for 4 years. Another sister was born, and then my dad was offered a job at ASU. Az is the one place that I have lived the longest. I grew up in Tempe. I enjoy reading, especially mysteries with female characters, cooking (which is hard since it is only myself) some gardening, walking/hiking, swimming, and traveling. Recently, I adopted a dog from the pound. Everything they told me about him wasn't quite the truth--he is a lot younger, so I have a puppy, named Murray, most of this summer has been spent puppy training, reading and hiking.

## **CALENDAR**

### **World Explorers**

No meeting in July or August

### **Book Discussion**

9:30 a.m. Friday July 17th

Home of Martha Hoyt

1821 E. Keim Drive

Bring suggestions of books for next year's reading list

### **Coffee and Conversation**

9 a.m. Saturday July 18th

Scott's Generation Restaurant and

Delicatessen, 5539 N. 7<sup>th</sup> Street

(NE corner of Missouri and 7<sup>th</sup> St.)

### **Salad and Poetry**

6:00 p.m. Saturday July 25<sup>th</sup>

Clubhouse of Dorothy Ward

(See page 1 for details.)

### **Evening Book Group**

6:30 PM Wednesday August 5<sup>th</sup>

Home of Dorothy Ward

Luncheon of the Boating Party by Susan Vreeland.

(Our September book is Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society.)

### **Book Discussion**

9:30 a.m. Friday August 21st

Home of Martha Hoyt

1821 E. Keim Drive

Bring suggestions of books for next year's reading list

### **Board Meeting**

9:30 a.m. Friday August 28th

Home of Kathleen Preece

7818 N. 16<sup>th</sup> Lane

All members are welcome to attend.

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

#### **Book Discussion**

9:30 a.m. Friday September 4

Home of Martha Hoyt

The Story of Edgar Sawtelle by David Wroblewski

#### **World Explorers**

Noon Thursday September 10th

Home of Carolyn Baker

1639 E. Tuckey Lane

Program: Alan Rogers: *Kayaking the Rivers in Alaska*

(Bring a sack lunch.)

#### **Fall Forum**

November 7, 2009

Scottsdale Community College

**Phoenix Branch 2009-2010**

President: Kathleen Preece

President-Elect: Ann Joines

Program Vice-President: Dorothy Ward

Corresponding Secretary: Martha Hoyt

Membership Vice-Presidents:

Carolyn Maxon

Linda Rosenthal

Recording Secretary: Judith Harde

Newsletter Editor: Mary Palsma



A Legacy of Leadership

**Phoenix Branch**

3130 W. Sunnyside Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85029-3230

**Mission Statement of AAUW**

**Advancing Equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.**