



# Northwest Valley Branch

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**April General Meeting** at Corte Bella

**April 21, 2011, Luncheon: 11:30 am - 3:30 pm**

**Installation of Officers, Honor Past Presidents**

**Program: How to Pack for Travel in Today's World**

**Speaker: Margaret Meister from Promenade Travel**

**Reservations Required: \$17. Send to Judy Hodgins**

[\(See Coupon page\)](#)

**AAUW Northwest Valley Branch**

**2011-2012 Officers to be installed at the April 21st Luncheon**

President(s)	Connie Johnson
	Harriett Grau
President Elect:	Joan Meagher — 2 year term
Program VP's	Joye Kohl
	Barbara Sausen
Membership VP's	Barbara Gobell — 1 year term
	Mary Kay Chester — 2 year term
Finance VP's	Alice Craig — 1 year term
	<b>2 yr Unfilled</b>
Recording Secretary.	Mary Jo Blum
Corresponding Secretary	Sheila George

**AAUW MISSION STATEMENT**

AAUW advances equity for all women and girls through  
advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.



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A new feature of e-Currents will be (space permitting) highlights of our Special Interest Groups.

This month we are featuring the **Creative Writing Group**

The Creative Writing Group usually meets on the fourth Wednesday at 9:30 am at the home of Greta Bryan.

Our purposes are:

To awaken or reawaken our creativity as writers.

To share our writing efforts and interests.

To receive critical evaluations and to critique the works of others.

To grow in our knowledge of the craft of writing.

To learn of current contests and market opportunities.

To share publication experiences.

We have some social time but also seriously discuss writing and share our writing efforts. We are collecting writings to be included in a book we hope to have published. Each month we have a specific writing assignment.

Bonnie Boyce-Wilson

### Attention Interest Group Leaders

Any Special Interest Group leader who wishes to have us feature her group can email me whatever she wishes to highlight. *Sylvia Brown*



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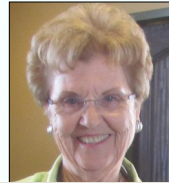
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**APRIL** – Where does the word originate from? No one knows for sure but it may have come from the Latin word “auperire”, which means – ‘to open’. April is, after all, the month in the northern hemisphere when buds begin to open and things start to grow again.

Some things that are happening this month in AAUW are:

The state convention is April 9<sup>th</sup> at Scottsdale Community College. One of the items that will be on the agenda at this convention is bylaws amendments. These amendments can be found if you go to [www.aauwarizona.org](http://www.aauwarizona.org) click on the top link (Welcome to AAUW – Arizona) then click on the calendar tab. There you will find Introduction to Amendments and Proposed Bylaws Amendments. Please look these over and let our six delegates know what you think of these changes. The delegates are: Harriett Grau, Connie Johnson, Joan Meagher, Betty Eldridge, and Elizabeth Rielly.

There will also be a vote on changing the amount of state dues. Since we do not know the verdict of this vote, we will not be taking any membership dues for the 2011-2012 year until after this meeting.

I hope we will have a good representation from our organization at the convention.

At the April meeting we will be installing our new officers and honoring past presidents. There will also be a fun and informative program. This meeting will be held at Corta Bella. I hope to see many of you there.

“Happiness held is the seed;

Happiness shared is the flower.”

Find the seed at the bottom of your heart and bring forth the flower.



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### Invitation from League of Women Voters of Northwest Maricopa County

The LWV/NWMC (League of Women Voters of Northwest Maricopa County) Civics Education Committee cordially invites all AAUW/NWV members to a meeting re: "U.S. Border Issues: Immigration and Drugs" on Wednesday, **April 20 at 7 p.m.** at the Unitarian Universalist Church, located behind and slightly north of the former West Valley Art Museum, north of Bell Road on the Avenue of the Arts in Surprise. The speaker will be Professor Heather Merrill of Glendale Community College.

For any questions, contact Dr. Bonnie Saunders, president of LWV/AZ and chairperson of the committee, at 623 - 825 - 7105 ([bonniesaun@aol.com](mailto:bonniesaun@aol.com)).

### STEM MEETING

The meeting will be held at the home of Betty Merwin 15151 W Carbine Way, Sun City West, on Friday April 8th at 10:00 am. The discussion topics are: Arizona statewide STEM initiatives, DUSD projects, and program planning for next year.

Elizabeth Rielly

The AZ Adventures with Lunch Special Interest Group enjoyed a visit to the Musical Instrument Museum in February.

[Click here for Alice's MIM photos.](#)

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### Reminder:

Don't forget to submit your check for \$17 and coupon to Judy Hodgins for the April luncheon at Corte Bella



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*Phyllis Burnett*

*Due to having taken several additional falls since the holiday season, Phyllis was hospitalized, then went home and can presently be reached as follows:*

*Phyllis Burnett*

*c/o Tender Loving Care Home*

*14239 West Charter Oak Road*

*Surprise, AZ 85379-5515*

*Telephone: 623-556-5515*

*Telephone calls and cards are most welcome. Please telephone before visiting.*

*Sharon Forbes*

### Reminder

If you know of a member who is ill or who has had a death in the family, etc. please let our Sharing and Caring person, Pearl Quast, and our President know.

### New Member Recruitment

As a reminder from your membership chairmen. **Help Recruit New Members.** If you know of any interested women, send us their names and we will send them information and applications.

**Barbara Gobell**

687- 6629

[barbaragobell@yahoo.com](mailto:barbaragobell@yahoo.com)

**Sue Hanrahan**

544-8497

[stunsueh@yahoo.com](mailto:stunsueh@yahoo.com)

### Directory Changes

#### Email Changes:

Pat Riffle change to: [jriffle34@cox.net](mailto:jriffle34@cox.net)

Mary Kay Chester – [chalknpills@aol.com](mailto:chalknpills@aol.com) - p.18

**Note:** Please send **Nancy Wilson** ([pqp223@aol.com](mailto:pqp223@aol.com)) information on New Members, Renewals, Email and Address changes.



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### Reports Show Proposed House Budget Cuts Would Hurt Economy

Two recent economic reports suggest that budget cuts passed by the Republican House in H.R. 1, the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act would actually hurt the economy. A [report](#) by Mark Zandi, chief economist for Moody Analytics, reveals that the measure would result in a net loss of 700,000 jobs by the end of 2012. Another [report](#) prepared by Alec Phillips, an economist for Goldman-Sachs, was sent to clients. It advised that the cuts in H.R. 1 would shrink economic growth by 2 percent of GDP. Predicting that it is unlikely that the full spending cuts will actually be enacted, Phillips estimated that more modest cuts of \$25 billion this year and \$50 billion next year would lower growth by 1 percent of GDP.

**Take Action! It is time to [send a message to the Senate](#):** You promised to create jobs and strengthen the economy — why would you support legislation that undermines these goals?

### Women Workers and the Protests in Wisconsin

With heated debates over public sector union rights waging in Wisconsin and other Midwestern states, women workers in particular have substantial interests at stake in the outcomes. Once qualifications are taken into account, public sector employees on the whole [make less](#) than their private sector counterparts, including both wages and benefits. [Unionized women](#) still earn more on average than those who are non-unionized, however, women are making up [an increasing proportion](#) of union members each year.

Women would be disproportionately affected by the proposed legislation restricting collective bargaining rights as they make up over half of all state public sector workers nationwide, and 61 percent of the public sector workforce at the local level. Further, firefighters and police and sheriff's patrol officers, the most common occupations of male local government workers, have been exempted from the proposed laws, while teachers, primarily women, have been specifically targeted. Laws which would hobble the right of public unions to bargain collectively would have dire effects on women and their families.

### New Information on the Wage Gap

This week, the Bureau of Labor Statistics [released](#) a chart illustrating the gender wage gap for full-time work by industry. Overall, women in wage and salary jobs had median weekly earnings of \$657 in 2009 compared with \$819 for men. Though these averages show women's earnings at 80 percent of men's, there were marked variations in the wage gap by industry. The largest gaps in women's-to-men's earnings ratios were seen in financial activities (71 percent) and other services (72 percent), and the smallest gaps were found in construction (92 percent) and agriculture and related industries (85 percent). In education and health services, where the largest segment of full-time women workers are employed (38%), women earn 77 percent of men's salaries.

AAUW is [committed](#) to supporting fairness in compensation, equitable access and advancement in employment, and vigorous enforcement of employment antidiscrimination statutes. This year, [Equal Pay Day](#) is April 12. Keep an eye out for events and ideas on [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)



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## Special Interest Groups

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The GLUE that holds us together! Please contact me for information on any group.

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Judy Hodgins

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### What we're reading and writing...

#### I – The Novel Lovers

April 11<sup>th</sup> 3 PM

Home of Joy Ottenad

*Secrets of Eden* by Chris Bohjalian

Contact: Anne Levig

#### Book Talk II

April 12<sup>th</sup> 1 PM

Home of Fran Cohen

Category: Classic and/or childrens or animal book

Contact: Joan Fedor, Debbie Geske or Helen Slemons

#### The Open Book

April 18<sup>th</sup> 1 PM

Home of Sondra Southard

*Year of Fog* by Michelle Richmond

Contact: Alice Craig

#### Evening Book Group

April 12<sup>th</sup> 7 PM

Home of Jan Sodos

*The 19<sup>th</sup> Wife* by David Ebershoff

Contact: Deborah Channell

#### Memories to Memoirs

April 4<sup>th</sup> 9:30 AM

Home of Alice Craig

Suggested topic – Facts of Life – How I Learned Them

Contact: Anne Levig

### What we're enjoying...

#### All Card Games at 1 PM Bridge

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed.

April 6<sup>th</sup> Joy Ottenad

April 20<sup>th</sup> Walda Stevens

Contact: Pat Riffle

#### Bridge

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wed.

April 13<sup>th</sup> Martins Restaurant

Debbie Geske hostess

April 27<sup>th</sup> Birdie Westerdahl

Contact Debbie Geske if you would like to play or sub.

#### Solos

Every Sat 8:45 AM

CoCo's on Bell

Contact: Norma Denham or Mary Wylie

#### Hiking

April 11<sup>th</sup> 9 AM Starbucks (99<sup>th</sup> and Bell) for coffee and conversation.

April 25 – 28 Annual overnight to ShowLow/Pinetop Area

Diane Seegers – Trip Leader

Contact: Bonnie Boyce-Wilson

#### Creative Writing

April 27<sup>th</sup> 9:30 AM

The Assignment: 1 page – Think back...I wish I hadn't said that...

Contact: Greta Bryan

### What we're learning...

**Why So Few?** AAUW publication on the under representation of young women in the STEM fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics discussion.

April 8<sup>th</sup> 10 AM (See Potpourri page for details)

Contact: Elizabeth Rielly

#### Great Decisions

April 11<sup>th</sup> Meet at 11:30 for Lunch. Discussion at 1:30 PM.

Discussions center on global interests and their involvement of the U.S.

Contact: Lois White

#### International Issues

April 20<sup>th</sup> 9:30 AM

Home TBA Shirley McDonald presents a program on "Making Sense of Multilateralism"

Contact: Shirley McDonald

#### AZ Adventures with Lunch

There will be no trip in April.

#### Foreign Flicks

April 26<sup>th</sup> 1 PM

If you would like to be put on the mailing list for **Foreign Flicks** e mail Sylvia Brown



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### APRIL LUNCHEON MEETING

April 21, 2011 at Corte Bella

11:30 am - 3:30 pm

The cost of the luncheon is \$17 and reservations are required. Judy Hodgins is accepting reservations and checks for this event. Checks should be mailed to Judy at 19823 W Stardust Blvd, Sun City West 85375 -5785.

Name \_\_\_\_\_, Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_

I cannot attend but have enclosed a contribution.

### From your e-Currents Editor

Sylvia S. Brown [sylviabauw@cox.net](mailto:sylviabauw@cox.net) Note new email address.