



The Sego Lily

AAUW in the 21st Century

By Ruth Z. Sweetser and Barbara L. O'Connor

Will 2009 be the year of AAUW's transformation? If so, each of us need to be reminded that policies and procedures by themselves don't change an organization. Rather, it is YOU -- the members -- who have the opportunity to move AAUW from a 20th- to a 21st-century organization. Since transformation depends on the human factor, how does this happen?

First, we have to work and think together as a one community to ensure we keep our AAUW Value Promise at all times. When planning branch activities or even personal activities, ask "How does this project or program or activity keep AAUW's Value Promise?" In other words, how am I helping to break through educational and economic barriers for women and girls? Diligence in keeping AAUW's promise will make an enormous difference both in getting results for our mission and in branding our organization.

Whenever you read with your granddaughter, play in a bridge tournament that benefits the AAUW Educational Foundation, host a guest speaker on pay equity at a branch meeting, or write your member of Congress through our Two-Minute Activist portal, you're taking a step to break through barriers. Just asking yourself that question brings a new awareness to, and appreciation of our work that is vital to making it succeed — and will help you focus as your branch plans its mission-based programming. When you take that planning up a notch — asking how can my branch join with as many other branches and members as possible to apply our collective influence to a breakthrough — barriers, watch out! With nation-wide engagement by members, our results, if documentable, will prove to be powerful and persuasive.

Second, plan to attend the 2009 AAUW National Convention: Breaking through Barriers, June 26–28, in St. Louis. There you'll have the chance to experience the new AAUW firsthand, to see with your own eyes what the future holds for our organization. You'll make AAUW history by participating in the bylaws votes, and, of course, you'll reconnect with old friends and make valuable and enjoyable new connections. But come to the convention well-versed in the proposed bylaws and rationales; the briefings provide extensive information on these new approaches.

Third, adopt innovative tools and future-oriented thinking about what will make AAUW viable, attractive, and competitive. Yes, organizations compete for the attention and participation of current and potential members. If we are unable or unwilling to see the big picture of AAUW and its needs in 2009 and beyond, we risk the future of the entire organization. So to finalize the corporate restructuring from

three separate entities to one tax-exempt umbrella organization (501(c)(3) with a very small 501(c)(4) subsidiary, the Action Fund, we will need to adopt bylaws that support the respective legalities and functions. We also need new ways of operating that recognize updated ways to lead, technology that facilitates administrative work so volunteers can devote themselves to breaking through barriers, 21st-century ways of engaging with each other, and other practices.

A number of these innovative tools have been introduced through the series of briefings that AAUW has provided since early fall 2008. These tools include the Programs in a Box, which provide how-to's for mission-based programming; the Membership Pilot Program, which will allow leaders to manage their membership records online; and the Branch and State Local Scholarship Clearinghouse Pilot Program, which will help branches market their scholarships and select their recipients from a pool of prescreened applicants. Our new method of submitting a leadership position application will allow members to express general and specific areas for service, along with an inventory of skill sets they can bring to these positions. The type of work expected of the regional director is so valuable that we are revamping and strengthening that role to ensure grassroots engagement for the new AAUW. At the state spring meetings, board members and other leaders — champions — will present and facilitate discussion on all these transitions. Be sure to take advantage of this personalized learning opportunity, especially in preparation for the convention in St. Louis.

Each of these changes marks a departure from our business as usual, yet they are all designed to address our organizational shortcomings. It is up to us to take hold of what organizational development teaches us, leave behind AAUW practices and thinking that don't work, and build on AAUW's unmatched legacy to reshape its potential for the future. We need to be smart, as well as educated!

The critical question is, How will you help AAUW move forward? As noted, the forward-looking framework and policies/procedures are being developed for your consideration and decision. How you think about AAUW, its future and its promise, will determine both how you receive proposed changes and, more important, what you do with the new AAUW once it is in place. You — both individually and collectively as the AAUW community — are the agent on which AAUW's success rests!

The new AAUW is going to be a force to be reckoned with. With a community of nearly 100,000 determined women and men, focused on a single objective—to break through barriers for women and girls—we will be unstoppable.

AAUW of Utah
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NUMBERS TO KNOW

AAUW web site:
www.aauw.org

AAUW of Utah web
site:www.aauwutah.org

AAUW Member
HELPLINE:
800- 821-4364
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Branch Reports

Brigham City Branch Report

January branch meeting featured the story of the Russian Colony in Box Elder County. A group of Russian immigrants traveled to the Park Valley area in 1914, to form a utopian agricultural colony, but drought and harsh conditions battered their dreams and the colony was disbanded in 1918. Today, two graves enclosed within a worn picket fence are the only reminder of the group's existence there.

Their story, along with photos provided by descendants of some of settlers, was told by Sarah Yates. Based on scant information, Yates began researching the colony with the idea of writing a feature story. Contacts, particularly the grandson of one of the women buried there, provided poignant stories. Yates' articles were published in the News Journal and with the Utah State Historical Society, and additional studies based on her research continue. The February meeting was the annual night out with the arts. We met to attend the "Music in the City" series concert featuring guitarist Chris Proctor and singer/songwriter McCall Erickson on Feb. 20, at the Fine Arts Center in Brigham City. The ticket included a \$1 coupon towards desserts at Beehive Pizza, where we gathered for socializing after the concert.

Our annual Scholarship Benefit Luncheon is set for April 18, at 11:30 a.m. at Maddox Ranch House in Perry. Speaker is Claudia Radel, assistant professor of human geography, department of environment and society at Utah State University. She is one of two AAUW Fellows at USU.

A portion of the luncheon proceeds also go to the AAUW Education Foundation, through which Dr. Radel received her fellowship. Donation for the luncheon is \$20 per person. Invitations will soon be sent.

Joan Peterson, scholarship chairman, will distribute applications to area colleges and universities. This scholarship is open to Box Elder County women who have returned to higher education following an interruption in their formal education. Ladies Community Club co-sponsors the scholarship.

The March meeting will be a social event, with plenty of visiting and fun as we stuff and address invitations and enjoy refreshments together.

— Sarah Yates

Tooele Branch Report In October we had a joint meeting with the Civic League of Tooele for a Meet the Candidates program. I brought along some of the AAUW Voter's Guides and passed them out to those who wanted one.

One of our long time members, Illa Bigelow, moved to Idaho this fall. We took her to lunch at a local restaurant. Some of our members also went to the open house for her at her church. We are missing Illa as she served in several positions and regularly came to meetings.

We had an informal meeting at a local restaurant in November to plan for our December dinner and also for a visit to another long time member, Van Shafer, who is home bound. We took a surprise lunch to Van and her caregiver.

Our traditional December dinner was at the home of Pat Steelman in Stansbury Park. We have been there for the last three years. In addition to exchanging gifts, we brought non-perishable items for the food bank. We voted to send both the Educational Foundation and the Legal Advocacy Foundation a check.

Member Vicki Nelson presented the program for the January meeting. She is the Technical Specialist for the Tooele County School District. She brought brochures and explained the technical curriculum available to schools throughout Tooele County.

For February, we are planning a cultural night. It has been difficult trying to find a time and event to fit everyone's schedule. Our last possibility was to attend a high school production. Tooele's musical, "Beauty and the Beast" will work well for us.

We had scheduled a book discussion of "Escape" by Carolyn Jessop, but put that off for March as one of our members, Pat Steelman, who has read it, is in Alabama over the winter.

— Dawn DeWitt

Ogden Branch Report In November, Maj. Richard Greene spoke about the Salvation Army. He said 2,200 families applied for assistance, including children. During the Christmas season, they place cards on trees with the names of families to encourage the public to help support a family's needs. The Salvation Army gives food boxes to 150 families per week in addition to many items from their thrift store.

The adult women's rehabilitation program began July 5 and with 28 women currently in the drug

and alcohol program. About 50 percent of the women complete the 6-month program with 40 percent of the graduates continuing in after care. The program offers life skills, group meetings, cognitive restructuring, and financial management classes. The program has a big ceremony for the graduates and resources help the women further their education and find employment. The Salvation Army graduates around 26 women a year, with 52 percent of all women graduating. The women work in the center.

In December, our branch charity for the rest of the year was the Salvation Army Women's Drug Rehabilitation Center with a fundraiser for a bed-in-a-bag for the program. The branch also donated to LAF and EF. The branch discussed the 2009 state conference and took a count of how many would be there. Six from the Ogden Branch plan to attend.

We also talked about recruiting old and new members during the one-half yearly periods beginning in January. Jean Andre Miller announced the Weber State University Storytelling Festival and told a Christmas story from Normandy. Ben Noid led everyone in singing Christmas hymns and was accompanied by Anna Conrad on the piano.

In January, our very own branch member Priscilla McClain spoke to us about her trips to the Arctic and Antartic. She brought many pictures and it was very informative. We also discussed conference progress.

In February, Carol Merrill of Weber State University Liaisons has been invited to present at the Young Women's Leadership Conference in June in Washington, D.C.

— Joan Effiong

Wasatch Branch Report This year, Wasatch Branch has had a variety of interesting programs, including Connie Coyne, reader advocate of the Salt Lake Tribune, Joan Effiong, who told us African stories, Sara Jordan, speaking on life in Sierra Leone and a program on aging.

We also held a successful holiday brunch in December.

Coming up are an International Women's Day program on March 9 and Susan Memmott Allred, costume designer for the Utah Opera on April 13. We plan to end the year with our annual installation dinner on May 11.

In November, we increased our EF donation by holding a fundraiser at Ten Thousand Villages. Now we have begun to plan for our 2009 EF events. Our many interest groups, including two book

groups, genealogy, bridge and "Meet and Eat," are going strong.

We have had a number of new members join us during the year, so our current membership total, as of Feb. 9, is 61.

— Kathy Horvat

Salt Lake Branch Report Branch activities include: a Red Candle Tea in December at the Westminster Alumni House, legislative programming in January with Sen. Scott McCoy and Sen. Wayne Niederhouser, a program to discuss issues related to the Achievement Gap in February, a Distinguish Woman of the Year dinner in March, and the annual Authors' Luncheon April 18.

Amanda Belloff and Jeanette Misaka are planning to attend the National Convention this year. The Salt Lake Branch board requests that they attend as delegates.

— Sharlene Kiuahara

St. George Branch Report Happily, our membership continues to grow. We gained 12 new association members in January and February. We now have 67 association members.

This week, our membership committee and I attended a meeting of the Leadership Chixies. This is an informal group of mostly working women from our area that use their meeting to network and support each other. We were allowed to briefly tell them about our branch and many expressed interest in finding out more. Several made reservations to attend our March meeting.

We have had a number of very interesting meetings this year thanks to our very ambitious Program Vice President Sharon McDougall. She has worked hard all year. Our recent speakers have included Judge James Shumate and Dr. Sharon Richens. Both attracted a number of guests.

In February, we had five student scholarship recipients attend. It is always a pleasure to see the students of Millcreek High School, students who are taking college classes while completing their high school requirements. They are always so appreciative of the small scholarships they receive.

We have had two successful fund raising events. The first was an Author's Luncheon in November where we featured Cheryl Collins, a glass artist who authored the book "Female Energy." Secondly, we had a Bridge Luncheon and Social. Each of the events were fun and financially successful.

Member Kayla Koeber has been selected as our Distinguished Woman of the Year.

— Gloria Prael

**Distinguished
Women**

Kathy Bray — Wasatch Branch

Kathy Bray has a bachelor's degree in social work from the State University of New York at Brockport and a masters degree in social work from the University of Utah.

She has been a resident of Utah for almost 20 years, is a certified social worker and has been working to address issues of homelessness and addiction in her career.

Her list of Commitment & Contributions to women's equity and advancement is exceptional.

Kathy has been a member of AAUW Wasatch Branch in Utah since 2005. She has served in the Wasatch Branch as co-program vice president in 2006, president in 2007 when the Wasatch Branch hosted the state convention, and Distinguished Woman chair in 2008. She joined the Utah State Board of AAUW as co-program vice president in 2007 to present, and is contributing to the 2009 state convention in Ogden this spring.

Kathy has supported the AWE+SUM program as a volunteer over the past three years because of her commitment to encouraging girls to get a college education. She is helping her 23-year old niece pursue a bachelor's degree in accounting by providing computers and paying for books while her niece also works full time.

She has also volunteered with voter registration in conjunction with the League of Women Voters at the Salt Lake City Library.

Her list of other volunteer contributions include: Annual Substance Abuse Recovery Day, Gallivan Center, 2003 – 2008; supporting people who made the difficult change to get clean and sober; serves on the Community Advisory Board for the Junior League of Salt Lake City, 2005 to present and is currently serving as chair; serves as vice president of Homeless Services for the State Chapter of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials, 2005 to present.

A list of her professional

achievements include: in November 1999, Kathy was named the director of detoxification services for Volunteers of America, Utah, and was given the responsibility of opening a detoxification center for homeless women and their young children in Murray. That program now serves close to 500 people each year and helps them stop using alcohol and/or drugs, go to treatment and become contributing members of society.

Kathy has presented at conferences on topics including methamphetamine addiction, trends in homelessness and substance detoxification.

In January 2008, Kathy was promoted to president and CEO of Volunteers of America, Utah which is a faith-based non-profit organization providing programs for people who are homeless and/or suffering with substance addiction. They also operate senior volunteer services in many counties of the state and offer opportunities for individuals, families and companies to volunteer. As CEO, she can also ensure pay equity for women.

2009 AWE+SUM

Camp date is July 6-8. Information and applications are available on the AAUW Utah and Westminster Summer Camp websites now. The application fee is still \$50, and the camp will be limited to 40 girls. The camp will consist of three full days with two overnights, allowing available funding to support the most important focus of the camps – the hands on science/math workshops. Dr. Carolyn Connell will continue as math workshop presenter and faculty coordinator. Camp administration and fund raising tasks are in the capable hands of Emily Hadfield.

The economy has affected all campus funding, requiring return to one camp session. Nevertheless, it remains exciting to see this project continue. It is my hope that AAUW Utah will be an on-going financial sponsor of the AWE+SUM program, as well as the source of volunteer assistance during the camps. Volunteers at camp enjoy an educational, invigorating, and rewarding experience!

— Sue Nissen

Kayla Koeber — St. George Branch

Kayla Koeber, of Leeds, Utah, has been chosen as the 2009 Distinguished Woman of the Year for the St. George Branch of the American Association of University Women.

A valued member of her local branch, she is currently serving on the membership committee and has been responsible for a number of new members.

She also serves on the Vision Dixie Steering Committee and Vision Dixie Implementation Committee – a county-wide smart-growth effort. She is a member of the Southern Utah Estate Planning Council and the Financial Planning Association.

Kayla currently works as a certified financial planner and

wealth management advisor for Merrill Lynch in St. George. She is a former production manager/production coordinator for Commercial Film Production in Los Angeles, was the 1984 Olympic Games personnel coordinator, and a research assistant in econometrics at the University of California at Santa Cruz, Calif. She was also a founding member of Leadership Chixie, a local networking organization for business women.

Kayla graduated from the University of California at Santa Cruz with a bachelor of arts degree in economics where she was awarded the highest honors in the major. She has recently

completed the qualifications to become the first female certified investment management analyst (CIMA) in our area.

Kayla is a dynamic speaker and has spoken to our branch. She also likes to read, travel ski, backpack, scuba dive, and participate in mountain biking. She is fluent in Japanese and lived in Japan as a teenager where she graduated as salutatorian from the Zama American High School, Camp Zama, Japan.

*Distinguished
Women*

Ruth Briscoe — Ogden Branch

Ruth Briscoe of Ogden, has been chosen as the 2009 Distinguished Woman of the Year for the Ogden Branch of the American Association of University Women.

She is a lifetime member of the American Association of University Women and has been a member for more than 50 years. She is serving on the calling committee and has served as recording secretary, board member and program chairman.

She graduated from Weber College and received

a Bachelor of Science degree from Utah State University. She retired from Weber County School District as a school teacher and is a member of the Utah Retired School Employees Association.

She taught kindergarten and first grade for 20 years.

A 30-year volunteer for McKay-Dee Hospital, she worked the surgery information desk. She also served several years in the homecare assisting nurses with senior citizens and the homebound get the right kind

of health care.

A researcher for Dan Jones, she took exit polls during elections and surveys prior to elections going door-to-door and telephoning.

She has enjoyed music all her life. She played the violin in orchestras, sang in choirs and conducted music in her church meetings. She spent time in family history and volunteered in her church data entry programs.

Reading, traveling and gardening have been other interests.

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State Convention

Advancing into the Future

The Ogden Branch and State Program Committee invite you to the 2009 State Convention on May 1 and 2. We look forward to seeing you all there!

The convention will be held at the Ogden Marriott, 247 24th Street in Ogden. Check-in and late registration begins Friday, May 1 at 4 p.m.

Agenda:

Friday May 1:

4:00- 5:15 p.m. - Check-in and registration. Detailed convention agenda, local information provided.

5:00- 6:20 p.m. - Opening reception: hors d'oeuvres and cash bar

6:30- 9:00 p.m. - State Board Meeting. All members are welcome to attend. Includes officer reports, committee reports and final convention plans. ** For those not attending, there are many local attractions nearby, including Ogden's First Friday Art Stroll.

Saturday May 2:

7:00-8:00 a.m. – Check-in and registration. Continental breakfast in Hospitality Suite, \$5 donation requested.

8:00-10:15 a.m. – AAUW business meeting. Includes branch awards, election of officers, vote on any referendums, etc.(more detail to be provided in registration package).

10:30-12:15 - MENTORING WOMEN TOWARDS EQUITY ** open to the public** Panel discussion on in's and out's of finding or being a mentor.

12:30- 2:00 p.m. LUNCH. Awards luncheon, installation of officers, recognition of branch Distinguished Women, plus speaker Amanda Ruiz, college student leader.

2:15- 3:15 p.m. Concurrent workshops (pick one):

(a) Searching out the hidden talent (diversity).

(b) Strong Women – Powerful Financial Strategies, Janet Bunger.

3:15- 3:20 p.m. Break

3:30- 4:45 p.m. AAUW proposed bylaws changes with Betsy McDowell of AAUW.

4:45- 5:00 p.m. – Resolutions and Convention closing.

Book Exchange

Bring a book you've read and take home a book you'd like to read.

Utah AAUW Convention May 1-2, 2009
Mentoring Women Toward Equity

REGISTRATION FORM

The convention is at the Ogden Marriott Hotel, 247 24th Street in Ogden Utah.

Please complete one form for each participant and return with payment to: Joan Effiong, Ogden AAUW President, 2181 Polk Ave., Ogden UT 84401. Make checks payable to: AAUW Ogden Branch.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State __ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

CONFIRMATION: I would like to receive my registration confirmation by
E-mail _____; phone _____; mail _____

Note: each branch is entitled to 1 delegate for every 10 members. Will you be a delegate?
Yes __ No __. Representing: State __ Branch __ (branch name _____)

<u>REGISTRATION:</u>		Amount:
After April 10	\$45.00	_____

<u>MEALS:</u>		
Friday night Reception (with 'heavy' hors d'oeuvres, cash bar)	\$20.00	_____
Saturday Lunch	\$20.00	_____

Please **circle** your choice of: Chef Salad (vegetarian, check here ___)
OR: Chicken Croissant

Total Amount Enclosed: _____

ROOM RESERVATION: To get AAUW rate, reserve your room **by April 17, 2009**. The convention is at the Ogden Marriott Hotel at a rate of \$89/night for either 1 king or 2 double room. Each member must call or register with the Marriott Hotel directly to reserve your room! Please alert the hotel if you need a room near an elevator or ground floor. Contact: Marriott Ogden Hotel at 1-888-825-3163 (toll-free) or 801-627-1190; or by email at this web location: www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/slcoq?groupCode=aawaawa&app=resvlink&fromDate=5/1/09&toDate=5/3/09 the group code is aawaawa.

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Important Updates

AAUW National Dues/ Fees Tax Deductibility

Effective April 1, 2009: AAUW National Individual Membership dues for fiscal year 2010 are \$49; \$46 is tax deductible, and \$3 is not tax deductible (because it supports the AAUW Action Fund's Section 501(c)(4) Lobby Corps and get-out-the-vote activities). Branch members should pay their \$49 national dues plus their branch and state dues through their branch as usual. Individual members (members-at-large) should pay their full national dues (\$49) to AAUW as usual.

Note: Branch/state membership dues are not

tax deductible unless your branch/state is classified under the Section 501(c)(3) entity by the Internal Revenue Service. Consult your branch/state finance officer to verify status.

The AAUW National Student Affiliate fee for fiscal year 2010 is \$17; \$16 is tax deductible, and \$1 is not tax deductible (because it supports the AAUW Action Fund's Section 501(c)(4) Lobby Corps and get-out-the-vote activities). AAUW National Life Membership dues (one-time payment) of \$980 are fully tax deductible. Tax deductibility details for special AAUW membership promotions are specified in

the promotion information.

AAUW Announces Leadership Corps

AAUW recently introduced a new proposed volunteer leadership structure, the AAUW Leadership Corps. The Leadership Corps will be member leaders who strive to identify and support prospective and current AAUW leaders, strengthen branches, and aid communication and inclusion within all levels of AAUW. Please consider applying for this new leadership opportunity. Learn more and access an application online. The application deadline has been extended to May 31.