

November 2016

# NEWSLETTER



FAIRBANKS (AK) BRANCH AAUW

November Branch Meeting  
History of Early Women Leaders in Fairbanks  
Pioneer Hall at Pioneer Park  
Monday November 14, 2016  
7:00 p.m.  
Public invited—Bring a friend!

The November AAUW meeting will honor historical women of the Tanana Valley. These early pioneer women became community leaders while fulfilling the traditional women's roles expected of them. They raised families and established homes and businesses. With their influence Fairbanks grew as a frontier town in spite of the many inconveniences of living in the North.

This Early Women Leaders in Fairbanks meeting will feature presentations by Marilyn Nigro, Kathleen Dalton, Pat Babcock and Joan Skilbred of the Pioneers of Alaska Women Igloo #4. Each will speak about different women who made a difference in founding Fairbanks.



The program will promote an understanding of equity and education that has progressed in our community for over one hundred years. Those pioneer women faced issues still with us today, issues addressed by AAUW platforms: educational, social, economic and political. Come to the Pioneer Museum (by the back gate of Pioneer Park) at 7:00 on Monday, November 14. Bring a friend. This fun and informative meeting is open to the public.

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## Have You Heard?

In August, Margaret Soden, was one of the featured speakers at the "White Coat Ceremony" for the inaugural class of UAA/ISU's Pharmacy collaboration. The class of 2020 will begin their four year course work to obtain their PharmD degrees at the newly established partnership between University of Alaska Anchorage and Idaho State University. The latest technology means that students can receive instruction in three locations simultaneously, Meridian ID, Boise ID and Anchorage AK. For many, many years pharmacists in Alaska have been advocating for a pharmacy school in Alaska, but the reality was that there just weren't enough students to make a full-fledged school possible. There will be up to 15 students in each of the four classes on the Anchorage campus and many pharmacy locations throughout the state will provide experiential opportunities for our students. The 15 positions on the Anchorage campus are reserved for Alaska residents and there is a very demanding process for selection. Many of these students have Bachelor degrees in other disciplines or have completed a Pre-Pharmacy program which usually takes 2-4 years. Margaret's speech was about her 50+ year journey as a pharmacist and the opportunities for pharmacists in Alaska. She is always recruiting students. UAF

has several pre-pharmacy students identified. If you know of a high school or college student who is interested in pharmacy, please have them contact Margaret.

[margaretdsoden@gmail.com](mailto:margaretdsoden@gmail.com)

## Attend the National AAUW Convention!!

Ellen Witcher was a firm proponent of Fairbanks members attending AAUW National Conventions. The Local Board agreed to use money from Ellen's estate to help support two members to attend the next national convention June 14-17 in Washington D.C.

We cannot cover the full cost of attending the convention but will make support available if you are interested. Consider attending to learn about new policy and programs and to make our Alaska voice heard! Please contact Gretchen Murphy. [gretmurphy@gmail.com](mailto:gretmurphy@gmail.com)

## AAUW Public Policy

It's your AAUW, so your voice counts. It's time to comment on and propose changes to AAUW National's bylaws and Public Policy Program. Click on the following link to find all of the information you need to comment on or propose

bylaws amendments, Public Policy Program changes, and resolutions. You can also nominate yourself to run for AAUW national office!

<http://www.aauw.org/resourcenational-election>

## Sex-Ed Restrictions in HB 156 and FNSBSD

HB 156 brought "widespread changes to education in Alaska" according to the Alaska Dispatch on July 28 when Governor Walker allowed the House Bill to become law without his signature. Of special interest to AAUW is the amendment that requires sex education instructors and resources used in the schools to be approved by local school boards. At the October 18 Fairbanks School Board meeting Planned Parenthood and two other resources were removed as a resource in our schools pending further review as a result of HB 156. Planned Parenthood is a partner of AAUW. At the November 1<sup>st</sup> School Board meeting further discussion on this issue ensued. Questions were posed to the Board. Keep an eye on this issue.

## Branch Facebook Page

Find the Facebook public page for our Fairbanks AAUW branch at:

[www.facebook.com/AAUWFairbanksAKBranch](http://www.facebook.com/AAUWFairbanksAKBranch)

Anyone can view this page. Please "like" our page and visit often to catch up on what's happening

## Send Newsletter Items

Have news or items for the Newsletter? Send them by the last Thursday of the month, to [kayt.sunwood@alaska.edu](mailto:kayt.sunwood@alaska.edu) with the subject line: AAUW Newsletter Item. Send "Member News" to keep us up on what you are doing, where you are going, as well as reports on Branch activities, pictures, and other items of interest. Future Newsletters will feature profiles of our members so that we can all get to know each other, as well as exciting and engaging new items to facilitate connections.

## Upcoming Book Group Meetings

Date: **November 14, (Monday), 1:30 pm**

Title/Author: In Defense of a Liberal Education / by Fareed Zakaria [non-fiction, 2016]

Location: Home of Jodi Gouwens, Linck Estates, 924 Kellum, Unit #304, 474-9144  
[off Cowles & 10th, behind Arctic Bowl]

Date: **December 12, (Monday), 1:30 pm**

Title/Author: *Young Adult Literature suggestions (Laura is writing a musical based on each)*  
Dealing with Dragons / by Patricia C. Wrede [YA fiction, 2015]

and/or Pennies For Hitler / by Jackie French [YA fiction, 2013] *[Public Library has both]*

Location: Home of Laura Walsh, 4427 Condor Ct, Apt 306, [303-709-9895](tel:303-709-9895)  
[Geist Rd, South on Loftus to end, R. on Condor]

## Plans for Directory

Carla Willetto and Gael Murakami are working on plans for making the directory available on-line in addition to being available as a printed document at the beginning of the year. If you have contact information updates or there were errors in your listing from last year, please send corrections to both Gael and Carla so we can make sure to include them.

**Give a Grad a Gift:** At our meeting in September, we mentioned a special program that National AAUW maintains for members to give a free one-year national membership to recent graduates. The membership is **free both to the member and the graduate**. The graduate may then join a branch if they choose in the area where they live. Here is text from the [aauw.org](http://aauw.org) website:

**As an AAUW member, you can gift one year of free AAUW national membership to as many recent graduates as you like.**

We all know that the future of our organization depends on today's graduates. Give a minute; gain a new community of AAUW leaders.

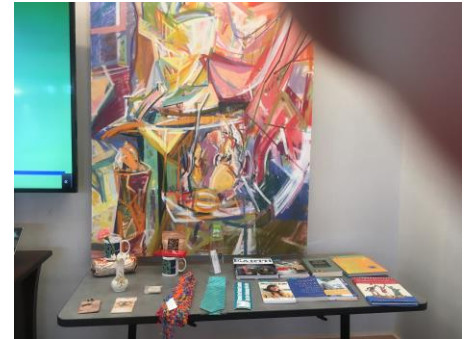
Here's how it works:

- **Identify the recent college or university graduates in your networks.**
- **These recent graduates** can be family, friends, neighbors, former students, friends of friends, you name it! You could even gift AAUW memberships to the entire graduating class of your local college or university. Anyone who has graduated within the past two years is eligible to receive one free membership from an AAUW member

## President's Message from Gretchen Murphy

November is our month to celebrate those pioneer women who founded Fairbanks. Join us at the Pioneer Museum at Pioneer Park at 7pm on November 14 to hear from members of the Pioneer Igloo about these early pioneers. Bring a friend! This is a public meeting and a great way to introduce someone new to AAUW. Thanks to Pat Babcock for putting this informative meeting together.

Kudos to Carla Willetto for an elegant **Membership Brunch October 15<sup>th</sup>**. Her informative presentation made us all proud of our local branch and her leadership. The décor was perfect for our crisp fall weather and the door prizes were generously donated by members.



Six new members joined AAUW Fairbanks Branch at our Membership Brunch: Joyce Bennett, Olivia Geyer, Emma Marcucci, Katia Kontar, Olivia Lee (with Baby Paddy), Nikki Kinne, and Nadine Carroll; joining our other most recent members: Jane Weber and JoLee Giuchici. Joyce is a retired math teacher from Fairbanks, Emma is a post-doctoral fellow in the Geophysical Institute, Olivia Lee is a researcher in IARC, Olivia Geyer is a recent grad who accepted our Give-a-Grad-Gift opportunity, Katia is a grad student who works on snow and ice with Molly Tedesche, Nikki is an acclaimed artist, and Nadine Carrol, one of our long-time Members at Large joined our branch as well. Nadine is Tribal Administrator for the Birch Creek Tribal Council. Welcome to all of you! We hope to see you at meetings and events throughout the year.

## Upcoming Dates to Put on Your Calendar

Our meeting calendar has been organized by our Program VPs Joyce Potter and Pat Babcock.

### Mark Your Calendars

Monday, November 14	History of Founding Fairbanks Women
Monday, December 19	Annual Holiday Potluck
Saturday, January 21	<i>No Host</i> Sourdough and Cheechako Luncheon
Saturday, February 18	Panel Discussion on Green Dot Community Bystander Intervention Program
Monday, March 20	Annual Meeting
Saturday, April 22	Scholarship Luncheon
Friday, May 19	Wine & Cheese

AAUW Mission: Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy,  
education, philanthropy, and research.

National website [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

Fairbanks Branch website <http://fairbanks-ak.aauw.net>

Fairbanks (AK) Branch AAUW

[FairbanksAK.AAUW@gmail.com](mailto:FairbanksAK.AAUW@gmail.com)

