

AAUW IOWA Connector
October 2010
An Electronic Bulletin for AAUW Leaders in Iowa

You are invited to share this information with other branch leaders and members by forwarding it to them or providing hard copy.
Sandra Keist Wilson, President AAUW IA

Pay Check Fairness Act

Majority leader Reid has filed for closure, which means the vote is scheduled. It will come up for a vote the week of November 15. Let's try to get Senator Grassley on board for women and pay equality. Phone numbers are available on the website.

A recent government accountability office report on wage difference between male and female managers showed women earned only 81 cents to every dollar a earned for men.

There are now more women than men graduating in the PHD programs.. However, we need an increase in women getting graduate degrees in the STEM fields and having careers in STEM fields. Working with our local schools on STEM projects are very worth considering.

Reminder: 990-N (e postcard) filing

The dead line is Oct. 15 to file for your branch. If you misplaced the directions, go to AAUW.org, click on Member Center tab, enter your number, on the member page look on the left for the Member Services Division and follow the directions to file. It is not complicated.

5050 in 2020

I hope a number of you were able to attend one of the public announcements for Jean Lloyd Jones and Maggie Tinsman's project 5050 in 2020. I am grateful to all of you that assisted with the planning of these events; it was good to have AAUW involved. I

was sent a few of the press articles so know the events were well covered.

If your branch has scheduled a showing of the film, "Iron Jawed Angels," please send the dates, times, and places to our webmaster, Laura Browne, so that they can be put on the AAUW IA Calendar. The calendar is available to post other branch events such as workshops, used book sales, etc. Send them to the webmaster. We want our calendar to demonstrate how active and involved we are.

The Iowa Initiative: Preventing Unintended Pregnancies

[Not to be confused with our state newsletter "The Initiative."]

This project will benefit women (ages 18 to 29) by providing an opportunity to take charge of their lives, to set education, career, and family planning goals. Research has found that many women in this age group have had little guidance in planning life goals. They often have unplanned pregnancies; which can put them at risk for never finishing an education or a career objective resulting in living their lives at the bottom of the economic scale.

A presentation by the Initiative Staff is planned for the Annual meeting to demonstrate how branches will be able to take part in the project.

New On-line Branch

The new on-line branch will soon have their first virtual meeting. There are 16 members that have joined this branch. Contact Mary Ann Ahrens, Membership VP for information.

Dr. Jill Biden

Dr Biden is hosting a Summit on Community Colleges. The focus will be on the importance of a community college education and the labor market. This may be a good time make connections with local CCs to consider a relevant program or workshop.

New Resources on the Issues Page at AAUW.org

Visit AAUW's Action Page for updated resources related to public policy issues in the form of letters, comments, and testimony.

Suggestions:

Stock up on Pay Day candy bars. They are readily available during the holiday season. This is a good time to get them to use for equal pay day events in the spring.

A book suggestion:

Jane Addams, the first American woman to receive the Nobel Peace Prize, founder of Hull House in Chicago, and advisor to several presidents, 150th birthday anniversary is this fall. A new biography, "Jane Addams: Spirit in Action" by Louise Knight has been recommended.

On a personal note: I am discovering that retirement certainly has its benefits. I am writing now from Suquamish WA, on the islands west of Seattle, while house and dog sitting for my oldest son while he is in Africa. By October 23, Gene and I will have been away from our home base for 7 weeks. In that time, I have been able to be fairly well in touch with AAUW and friends and family. I can get very frustrated with technology but I will never want to give it up.

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