

SIX LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED



Our six scholarship winners with scholarship committee members, Joann Oh, Charlotte Gagne, Margaret Baptist and Sally Metzger (Linda McIlnay was not present)

Many THANK YOUS to all of you for your time, effort, and money you have contributed to the Local Scholarship Fund throughout this year and to all the attendees at our May Branch meeting who so graciously spoke to our SIX wonderful scholarship winners. Each of these winners is being helped to reach her academic goal through your contributions. And Each has demonstrated academic excellence, financial need, and career commitment as shown in her personal statement and letter of recommendation. Each of these recipients knows where she is going and has a plan to achieve her goals. Here are the profiles of these six women scholars:

Geanina Brown:

Geanina is a wife, mother of three, and a long time early childhood educator. She has been an early childhood educator, assistant director of a Montessori preschool, and director of a private preschool over the past 20 years. As a military wife, born in Costa Rica, she brings a diverse perspective to her work and our community. English is her second language and she has worked with children of all abilities, disabilities, and languages. Currently, she is being considered to run the Family Development Center at UCCS, but like many married women with children, her family has always come first. Thus, she is now finally getting the bachelor's degree in Inclusive Early Childhood Education, to have the certification that these jobs require. Like many workers in America, she has been doing the work of a professional without the commensurate pay. To say that she is qualified for this degree is an understatement. Her recommender states that Geanina is the model student: focused, dedicated, and frequently called upon by faculty to serve as a resource and mentor to the other students in her program who have much less "real life experience" in this field. Geanina's enthusiasm and dedication to young children is still apparent after all the years working in this field. She also juggles life as a wife, mother of a 15-year-old son with a vision disability, in addition to 2 college age children. Recently,

she has worked for the Alliance for Kids El Paso County Early Childhood Council as the Community Outreach Specialist, supporting child care centers, preschools, and family child care home providers with achieving higher levels of quality improvement. She is passionate about making a difference in the early childhood field. Unlike many scholars, Geanina has the career already—she just needs the degree to enable her to qualify for the salary and top positions she is capable of entering.

Katherine Latona:

Katherine was born in Bogota, Colombia and moved to Durham, N. Carolina during her high school years, attending the Durham School of the Arts. It was from this experience at an American public magnet school that she developed an appreciation for art and what the arts can do for a society. It was during this time that her parents divorced and art was a way that she coped with this adversity. She married a military serviceman and has been a support to him as well as her father, both of whom have medical disabilities. She balances a job, being a caregiver to her father, and life as a student working towards an art history/museum curator degree. Her recommender states that Katherine's work is so strong that the instructor has shared it anonymously with her entire class as an example of what the students should be striving towards. Always insightful and analytical in her thinking, Katherine is able to challenge her classmates by addressing many sides of an issue. Her recommender sees her having a future in the classic antiquities area of museum curators. Currently, Katherine has been recommended to the Chair's committee, a group of students from each area of the Visual and Performing Arts major, who work together to shape the future of the department in terms of curriculum and student's events. As an immigrant who has been the target of racial injustice, she has gone from being a young woman who worked at McDonald's to an honor student at UCCS who has a real shot at working in the museum world. She exemplifies the universal struggle women as caregiver, student, and worker who is working towards her goals.

Astride Mukabagula:

Astride was born in the Congo, lost her parents when she was an infant, and was raised by her aunt until her early teens. She then spent 4 years in a refugee camp in Uganda, awaiting foster placement in the U.S. While on the African continent, she experienced in her short years sexual assault, homelessness, and economic insufficiency. She came to live with a foster family in Security Widefield and attended Widefield High School for her junior and senior years. She speaks nine languages, English being her ninth, Swahili her first, French her second, and an assortment of other African languages in between. To say that Astride is a survivor is an understatement. She is currently entering her junior year of college, having completed her first 2 years as a business/accounting major at PPCC. She will be transferring to UCCS in the Fall as a junior and is majoring in accounting. She has a noble goal of developing a non-profit agency for homeless teens and youth, having experienced firsthand the trauma that homelessness creates for children of this age. She has had the challenge of helping to improve her own life and the lives of her siblings without many of the traditional support systems that other students have from their families. Astride amazingly does not view herself as a victim but as a conqueror. She works several jobs, attends classes, and is currently seeking internship experiences to gain skills in the business field. Being part of the foster care system in America gave her the perspective that she is not the only person who has had to go through many obstacles to make through each day. Her experiences in Africa give her perspective on relating to homeless youth. Astride says she understands what it means to sleep on the street, pray for morning to come and realize she was still alive. These challenges have caused her to struggle and been a strong teacher that she must continue forward. She is motivated to succeed and appreciates all she has accomplished. She wants to get this degree to help others along the way, using her teamwork skills, community connections, and business knowledge to provide support to homeless youth.

Karsang Sherpa:

Karsang grew up in a remote village in Nepal and came to America when she was 14 years old. She was fortunate to have been able to attend school in her village, an opportunity that is not always available to

many children in Nepal, let alone girls. From a young age, Karsang was fascinated with disassembling and reassembling machines of all kinds. She is currently in her junior year as a mechanical engineering student/mathematics major at UCCS. She has a long term goal of working in the area of biomedical implants that assist people with bionic body parts connected to electrical brain impulses.

Karsang lives with her 2 siblings and parents in Colorado Springs and attended school at Palmer High School as an ESL student. She is currently working an outside job to pay for her education and contribute to her family's income, in addition to being a fulltime engineering student, president of the UCCS AAUW student association, and participating in STEM activities. Thanks to her faculty mentor, Aditi Mitra, Karsang was selected to go to Washington DC in 2015 to attend a STEM conference, where she met other female STEM majors, also overcoming gender bias in their classes. Karsang has been involved with equal pay events through AAUW and has done public speaking around women's issues through her involvement in AAUW. We are thrilled to honor her with this scholarship as she has overcome much cultural, economic, and gender bias in her life experience thus far.

Lamu Sherpa:

Lamu Sherpa is Karsang's older sister, also from the remote village in Nepal. Like her sister, her family waited many years on a green card list before entering the United States. Lamu also attended Palmer High School and then UCCS. Like her sister, Lamu works an outside job, attends school, and participates in outside activities, in addition to living at home with her parents as a first-generation college student, balancing the sometimes conflicting cultural expectations on her as the oldest sibling in the family. Lamu is an Economics major and has a long term goal of getting her PHD and being an Economics researcher. This is an amazing goal for a young woman who grew up with limited access to information. Lamu told us that when she came to America, the breadth of information overwhelmed her available to her through the internet, Wall Street Journal, and vast libraries. She marvels at the wide expanse of information available to her and sees this as critical to an Economist. She loves the "big picture" of this discipline and understands the gender bias issues she faces as a female in a predominantly male field. She is close to obtaining her American citizenship and determined to go on to higher education in her field.

Thecla Shubert:

Thecla attended school at Rampart High School and then the Classical Academy College Career pathways program through District 20. By the time she completed high school she had almost 2 years of college credits from PPCC. She is passionate about public speaking and the communications field. During high school, she volunteered with junior high school speech and debate teams, to gain experience as a coach and mentor, enabling pre-teen students to find their voice and develop self-confidence. In Thecla's relatively short academic career, she has made numerous speeches at Multicultural Day events, Chinese American History Day. Her recommender at PPCC says she is an amazing mature student for her age, kind, compassionate and serious student. She stood out from many entrants in the Multi-Cultural event by presenting a speech and a video she created about the impact of menstruation on school attendance for girls in nations with poor sanitation and harsh stigmas. Her sensitivity and breadth of developing this topic were so strong that many men in the audience came forth to ask questions. Thecla has a long term goal of Speech, Language Pathology, with an emphasis on speech articulation. She hopes to coach and use her voice for issues about which she is passionate. She is most interested in assisting young children to overcome speaking difficulties and find confidence in their communication skills.

We give to each of these amazing women our highest hopes and deepest confidence that they will indeed succeed, not only academically, but in all the multiple roles that they work at so very hard and fill so very well.

Charlotte Gagne, Local Scholarships Chair

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

May is a busy month. We focus on commencement addresses, track meets, end-of-year luncheons, school proms, gardening, summer vacations, and award ceremonies. On May 20th we celebrated our award ceremony where we awarded six scholarships to deserving women and installed a new slate of officers. A busy month concludes a busy year for our branch.

As I review the past year, I remember outstanding programs, speakers, and activities, but, without a doubt, what stands out in my mind most is each of the remarkable women I have encountered who belong to our branch. The women in the Colorado Springs AAUW are dynamic women of integrity and professionalism. They are dedicated and supportive who bring a plate of cookies to an event or an item to Authors' Day for the silent auction without using the word, "Why" once. I applaud all of you and am grateful for you. Thank you for making my job as President effortless.

AAUW continues to conduct crucial research to promote positive change, close the gender pay gap, protect women against negative bias on college campuses, and promote equal pay in the work place. We continue to uphold our banner and promote our mission for the women coming after us.

In 1881, 17 like-minded women met to develop a powerful network that continues today. At that time few women had the opportunity for higher education. This is changing thanks to AAUW and women who march and fight and care. Pew Research Center Analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data, USA TODAY, and Minnesota Office of Higher Education all post a changing trend of women in education. More women than men are enrolling in college. Minnesota posted that more women earned degrees than men in their state last year.

But our work is not over. Our mission continues. Women working full time in the United States are typically paid 79% of white men are paid for the same work. We promote and uphold women around the world as well as our own children and grandchildren who follow us. Let us be good role models.

THANK YOU

The dedication and effort expended by each board member over the past year has been monumental. I am forever grateful for each of them. Please thank the following women when you have the opportunity.

President Elect	Paula Munger
Secretary	Jean Little
Treasurer	Frieda Dunlap
Membership Vice President	Suzanne Stahlbuhk
Program Vice President	Sally Metzger
Program Vice President	Pip Bodkin
Community Vice President	Pauleta Tervin
Community Vice President	Judy Casey
Interest Group Chair	Jean Olsen
Public Policy Chair	Lois Boschee
Local Scholarship Chair	Charlotte Gagne
Fund Chair and By-Laws Chair	Candy Crumb
Communications Chair	Judie Werschky
Newsletter Chair	June Hallenbeck
Archivist	Eunice Ciaccio
Virtual Communications	Brenda Wolfe

AAUW COLORADO STATE CONVENTION

In April, our branch hosted the AAUW State Convention at the Antlers Hotel. In viewing the number of thank you notes and emails I received, I mark the event-- FANTASTIC. A special thank you goes to our devoted committee which spent the past year planning: Paula Munger, Judy Casey, Brenda Wolfe, and Nedra Engelson from Colorado Springs. Joining us to plan from the state were Betty Flaten and Linda Groth, Program Development Co-Vice Presidents. Thank you.

Thirty-one of our members attended; many helped with registration and with greeting. Our AAUW board members supplied all the food for the Pioneers Museum reception. Thank you.

At the state convention, our branch was recognized with the following awards.

AAUW OF COLORADO HONORED COLORADO SPRINGS FOR:

1ST PLACE GIVING TO LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

1ST PLACE GIVING TO EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FD

3RD PLACE COMBINED GIVING TO ALL FUNDS

1ST PLACE GIVING TO AAUW FUNDS

Congratulations for a remarkable year.

Phyllis Sperber

2017 Names Honored Award



The Names Honored Award is given each year to a branch member in recognition of outstanding service to our branch and to our community. The Names Honored committee for 2017 consisted of Paula Munger, chairman, Pam Doane, and Jeanne Marsh. After careful thought and discussion, it was a unanimous decision to award this honor to **Judith Casey**.

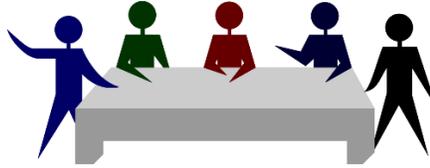
Judy is very active in both our branch and our community. She has previously served as Interest Chair and was the branch President in 2014-15. She just completed serving on the nominating committee and as co-chair of the 2017 State Convention. She is presently the Co-Community Vice President and the co-chair of the Authors Day planning committee.

In our community, Judy serves on several boards: the Griffith Center, Citizen's Project, Women's Educational Society, and Pillar, where she serves as president. She is on the Women's Foundation of Colorado Regional Steering Committee, a mentor for the Karen Possehl Women's Endowment at UCCS, an active member in the downtown Rotary Club, and also supervises student teachers from the University of Northern Colorado.

Congratulations, Judy, on your 2017 Names Honored recognition, and thank you for all your dedicated work for our branch and our community

Report from the nomination committee was given: The committee was made up of Judy Casey, Marilyn Hanlon, Gini Simonson, Lois Boschee, Marilyn Feaster, and Nona Hentschel.

Welcome our new Officers for 2017-2018



President: Paula Munger

President-elect: Nancy Holt (1 year as president-elect, then 1 year as president)

Co-Community VP: Pauleta Terven (entering second year of 2 –year term)

Co-Community VP: Judy Casey (entering second year of 2-year term)

Membership VP: Marilyn Feaster (entering first year of 2-year term)

Co-Program VP: Sally Metzger (entering second year of 2-year term)

Co-program VP: Felicity “Pip” Bodkin (entering second year of 2-year term)

Secretary: Pam Maier (entering first year of 2-year term)

Treasurer: Frieda Dunlap (entering second year of 2-year term)

Time for a Change!



June Hallenbeck has been making the Directory since 2003 and the Newsletter since 2004 when she took over for Judy Sanderson. She is ready to hand over both positions this year and will be happy to give whatever assistance is needed to the next volunteer.

June uses Word to produce the newsletter and converts it into a PDF file. For the Directory she used Publisher, which could also be used for the newsletter. Brenda Wolfe distributes the email edition and the newsletter committee receives the printed edition and sends it out.

Please let Paula Munger or June know if you are willing to take on one or both of these positions. June feels that 14 years is long enough for this 85 year old lady!!

Please Welcome our New Members

Joan Ernst

Cell: 719-660-8637

4820 Stillwell Dr., COS 80920

Email: Je450ster@gmail.com

Degree: BS (Recreational Therapy) Univ. of Colorado, Boulder

Interests: Crafts, Dining, Mah Jongg, Hiking, Reading (book clubs), Arts on the Go

Newsletter: Email.pdf

Joan retired from T. Rowe Price and Barns & Noble. She met some of the AAUW members through another hiking group.

Nancy Price

Cell: 719-213-6109

2614 Summit Dr., COS, CO 80909

Email: Nkp2160@gmail.com

Degrees: BA (Geology) Univ. of Colorado, Denver
MS (Geology) Univ. of Colorado, Denver

Interests: Hiking, History, Writing

Newsletter: Email.pdf

Nancy is retired and volunteers with NAMI Public Policy and the PPLD History Series. She is also a member of the Society of Women Engineers.

Violet Sykora

Cell: 719-650-5798

2405 Patriot Heights, Apt. 4308, COS 80904

Email: sykoravss@gmail.com

Degrees: BS (Chemistry/Physics) Western Washington Univ., Bellingham
MBA (Business) Seattle Univ., Washington

Interests: Current Affairs, Hiking, History, Reading, Public Policy, Technology

Committees: Community, Program

Newsletter: Email.pdf

Violet is retired from working in the Cement Industry/manufacturing. She volunteers with Girl Scouting and ASTM.

Cindi Zenkert-Strange (spouse: David Strange)

Cell: 317-650-1005

6742 Indian Feather Dr., COS 80923

Email: cmzenkertstrange@gmail.com

Degree: BA (English Literature) Greenville College, Illinois

Interests: Dining, History, Southwest Studies

Committees: Program

Newsletter: Email.doc

Cindi is retired from Publishing and Grant Development. She volunteers as a CS Fine Arts Center Docent/VP, MO, PS Volunteer and as a Women's Educational Society Board Member.

AUTHOR'S DAY – SILENT AUCTION

It's that time of the year to start thinking about donations to the silent auction for Authors' Day, which will be held October 28th this year.

If you didn't attend the scholarship luncheon today, you missed a marvelous opportunity to see who benefits from all the hard work we do to raise money for local women's scholarships. These six women were truly inspirational, and it brought tears to my eyes for what they have had to overcome to get here. I felt truly honored as an AAUW member to be able to support these women in their quests for higher education.

Last year's silent auction was a huge success and brought in about \$2500. Let's see if we can do it again.

I have some other ideas for this auction. Do you have a skill you could share with others? For example, how about a golf lesson, a bridge lesson, a pickleball lesson you could have as an auction item. Do you like to entertain? We have a Beer and Brats night already and possibly a BBQ for 4 people. Would you be willing to have a luncheon for four? How about a private hike with a picnic lunch?

How are you at talking businesses into giving us gift cards for scholarships?

Do you have gifts you have been given but really didn't like that are still in the original packages? Couldn't we auction those?

My goal is to get as many 'free' donations as possible. Think outside the box.

Thanks to all who contributed last year. I am counting on all of you to make a difference in women's lives.

Jean Olsen, Silent Auction Chair

Reflections from an AAUW Student Club Advisor

(2007-2016)

By

Dr. Aditi Mitra

I have been asked by the current President of AAUW Phyllis Sperber to share some glimpses of my very memorable experience and wisdom serving AAUW for the past eleven years. I have been a faculty at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs (UCCS) for the past twelve years, and I have been the Founding Faculty Advisor for the AAUW Student Club at UCCS. I was offered an “Honorary Membership” with the local chapter of AAUW in Colorado Springs back in 2006, and ever since I had been actively promoting AAUW (as a member of AAUW – both local and national) at the UCCS campus. Over the years, I have also been the College Representative of the College/University Partnership program that I initiated from our campus and have represented UCCS at the national AAUW convention (I was invited by then AAUW Colorado President Marilyn Zimmerman to be part of the Special Edition of the AAUW Colorado Bulletin on the National Convention 2015).

Our students come and go as they graduate from UCCS; hence membership numbers differ from year to year. Initially when I instituted the AAUW Student Club at UCCS, I gathered students from my own courses to join the club that I had started. Whenever I saw a student showing a special interest in human rights and women’s rights, I took her/him under my wing and mentored them to think bigger, in terms of how to nurture their passion effectively and serve women and our society at large. Eventually, we put our heads together to promote the student club to the larger campus, hosting Equal Pay Day events, International Women’s Day, Diversity and STEM conferences and then started sending our students to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). We also hosted the Start Smart Workshop on salary negotiation at our campus. Over the years, we have co-hosted events with the local chapter at the UCCS campus but also sent our student volunteers to help with AAUW events held in the city as well as the state. Moreover, I personally took it upon myself to promote the Local Scholarship announcements at our campus, and encouraged students to apply for it. One of my primary goals had been to introduce the larger campus and our local community to AAUW’s overall mission.

In 2015, as a show of support for my services to AAUW, I was awarded a grant by Chancellor Pamela Shockley-Zalabak to attend the AAUW National Convention in San Diego. In 2016, I was awarded the prestigious Jane Addams Outstanding Service Award for my years of service to AAUW, by the Midwest Sociological Society (MSS). I chose to donate the monetary part of the award to the AAUW local chapter scholarship fund. This year I am happy to pass on the baton after eleven years as Faculty Advisor for the AAUW Student Club. I am grateful for the honor and recognition that I received from UCCS and the national organization MSS for my passion and decade-long service to AAUW. It feels great to know that my service has impacted many young women in a positive way! I hope to continue being a member and serving AAUW in the coming years. Wish me luck!

Automated Membership Renewal Option for Current Members

AAUW National has created an additional option for renewing membership. Many of you have received an email from memberinfo@aauw.org which allows current members to renew online. No instructions or log in required; just click and renew through a secured email link. Emails were sent to those with current/correct email addresses in the [AAUW National Database](#). If you didn’t receive an email, your email address may not be correct in the [AAUW National Database](#), to ensure your personal information is correct, log into the AAUW website and review/update your personal information.

For additional information contact: Frieda Dunlap, 598-2336 or email, ffdunlap@hotmail.com.

The following form can be used as well as the renewal form sent as a separate file with this newsletter.

**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
COLORADO SPRINGS BRANCH MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2017**

These dues will be current through June 30, 2018

Last Name _____ **First Name** _____

Please fill in only if there is a change.

Address _____ **Zip** _____

Phone (home) _____ **(cell)** _____

Email _____

New Degree(s) Earned Since Last Renewal: _____

Please CIRCLE the committee in which you wish to donate your time and talent:

Authors' Day, Finance, Governance, Membership, Newsletter Circulation, Program, Publicity/Communications, Local Scholarship, Community Outreach, Public Policy

Annual Dues - To be paid NO LATER THAN June 30, 2016.....\$ 80

(National=\$49, State=\$10, Local=\$21)

Life Members Dues are reduced to \$31 for State & Branch only

Dues for Student Affiliates \$25 (\$16 tax deductible)

DONATIONS TO:

Education Foundation \$ _____

Legal Advocacy Fund \$ _____

Local Scholarship Fund (students at PPCC and/or UCSS) \$ _____

Cost for newsletter US postal mailing. (\$10.00)..... \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED (Check payable to AAUW) \$ _____

\$46 Dues payments MAY be deductible as an ordinary and necessary business expense. Contributions to the Educational Foundation/Legal Advocacy Fund ARE tax deductible charitable donations. Local Scholarship Fund IS NOT tax deductible.

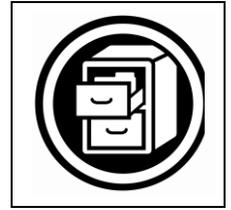
PLEASE REMIT YOUR DUES PAYMENT TO THE TREASURER NO LATER THAN June 30, 2017 to ensure you are included in the next directory.

Mail Payment to: Frieda Dunlap
6240 Gemstone Way
Colorado Springs, CO 80918

Membership questions contact: Marilyn Feaster, VP Membership
Mfeaster88@yahoo.com

Everything That's Old is News Again.

CARS, TRAINS, LEGS AND BUSSES – May 12, 2014



PSSSSSSSSSSSTTTT! The air brakes of the huge travel bus brought us to a halt on a side street at the back of the historic Hotel Denver in Glenwood Springs, Colorado, our Southwest Studies travel destination. The entire bus was silent as we looked around us. Even this leg of our adventure required some minor survival skills. The streets around our hotel were under major construction, and directly across from the hotel main entrance, in all its glory, was the small Amtrak Train Station where we had been scheduled to arrive over 24 hours earlier on Sunday afternoon, 1:53 PM, May 12, 2014.

We collected our bags from the storage hold of our travel bus and dragged them through the maze of street construction, broken up curbs, barrier tape, plywood sheets and found the hotel entrance; checked in, found our rooms and promptly brushed our teeth and combed our bed heads.

* * * * *

Pan back to O-Dark-Thirty, Sunday morning 6:15, May 2014 in Colorado Springs

The morning did not start very well. Those of us who left from Colorado Springs met at the Woodmen Park and Ride and car pooled to Denver - Lois, Jean, Martha, Vivian and I were packed like sardines into Dixie's big SUV crushed by our luggage and supplies! Six of us plus luggage.

It was dark and cold with snow and slush on the drive up the Interstate 25 from Colorado Springs to the Union Station in downtown Denver. Our objective was arriving safely during that early morning drive, finding the Union Train Station, finding parking, and catching the California Zepher scheduled to leave at 8:05 AM.

This morning coincided with the highly publicized grand re-opening of the newly renovated and historical Union Station and master plan to be the hub of downtown transportation connecting downtown Denver with trains, busses, light rail and even shuttles to the Denver International Airport. We even later encountered dignitaries who were there for an inspection and tour of the grand opening of this very ambitious project.

We all too soon learned that the renovation plan was a bit behind schedule. We located the passenger entrance to the station by circling around the dark and strangely empty streets of downtown Denver.

Our next challenge – where to safely park Dixie's big SUV. We scouted still-not-completed parking lots, pretty scary adjacent vacant lots and warehouse areas and then agreed that Dixie would drop us off with our own luggage as well as Dixie's and get checked in. A few not-very-self-explanatory signs later, we made our way to the entrance.

A Delay

We arrived at the ticket office, grateful that we had arrived in time to catch our train, at least with Dixie's luggage in tow when we were informed that the train, arriving to Denver from Chicago, was delayed about an hour. We were relieved that we had safely arrived and met up with the rest of the group and settled into the station small waiting room, and did what one does in a waiting room – WAIT. We learned that several of our group had come the evening before and stayed in a downtown hotel. SMART! They appeared to be less ragged than the rest of us.

This was the first trip for several of us as newly joined Southwest Studies interest group members of AAUW, and it was a good opportunity to become acquainted. Regular inquiries to the state-of-the-art train schedule on anticipated arrival time brought us more and more disheartening news. We wandered around the obviously not completed renovations and noted all of the new updates to this truly grand old historical structure with doubtless amazing stories to tell. In hindsight, one could conceive of it as a part of our Southwest Studies subjects.

Another Delay

When we were updated that our train was seriously delayed – that it would be arriving no earlier than 1:00pm we decided to find a place to have breakfast. We were directed to walk the newly constructed underground concourse that led us to the 16th Street Mall free bus transportation and we found a downtown breakfast eatery.

After a filling breakfast and retracing our steps back to the station, we inquired about the anticipated train arrival time from Chicago that continued being extended until we were promised that it would arrive shortly after 3:00pm and that we'd be on our way by 3:30.

A Tornado in Kansas

We were assured that this arrival time was accurate as the train was now enroute. Our hapless train had been delayed coming from Chicago and through the Plains States when it was forced to stop due to a tornado touch-down and destruction in a Kansas town on its way heading west. The train had to stop and wait until the debris was cleared.

It felt like we were watching paint dry – the time passed so slowly, and we were tired of our own stories! Finally a bit after 3:30, we spotted its big old nose sliding into the station – a welcome sight that we thought we'd never see.

We each checked our baggage (Dixie had arrived from parking her car by then) and waited to board. The seats were assigned, and the majority of the group was seated pretty much together – except for Karen M and Jean L who had signed up after the group tickets were purchased. Fortunately, we were all in the same car, and it turned out that their seating at the other end of our car worked out just fine for them, a detail that we will discuss later.

A Mechanical Delay – Which Translated into ANOTHER Delay

We found our seats and settled in, all ready to go. It was a bit past 3:30. Once again, we eagerly anticipated movement of pulling out of the station and waited. A voice over the loudspeaker told us that there was trouble with one of our engines – I believe that it was brakes – and that there would be a further delay while the experts did the necessary repairs and then double-checked them for safety. The good news was that our baggage was checked, we were seated in the correct car on the California Zephyr heading west and in our comfortable designated seats. We waited ... and waited, anticipating the good news that all was well. By and by, a follow-up announcement came over the loudspeaker that the simple brake repair work didn't fix the problem with the engine. It was apparent that this locomotive wasn't going west to Glenwood Springs with us - a lost cause insofar as this trip was concerned. Further bad news was that our train wasn't traveling anywhere through the mountains without two locomotives!

An Engine Replacement

This news was followed by an announcement that a second locomotive was being sought from BNSF, a heavy duty freight engine that was up to the job, and then we'd be on our way. I could easily imagine that there weren't loads of SNSFs hanging around waiting for somebody to call, plus this exchange entailed two different train companies to work out the details. We waited. Wait was the operant word for the day, and we hadn't even left the Denver newly refurbished Union Station. By this time it was nearly 5:00, way after the time that we were due in at Glenwood Springs.

We Were REALLY On Our Way

Time was finally on our side, because soon we saw that we were soundlessly pulling out of the station and passing through the back yards of the city. We were on our way to Glenwood Springs, looking forward to an arrival at Glenwood Springs, albeit late and our hotel and a soft comfortable bed – but nevertheless on our way.

We passed along the route, heading west into the mountains and were thrilled with our view of the aftermath of this amazing late snowfall in the mountains. The evergreen branches were bowed down under 10-12 inches of snow, and everything was buried under the blanket of snow. The train took us westward and lifted us upward giving an incomparable view of Denver. The multitudes of mountain streams were full of fast running water, black swashes in the fresh snow. The daylight was fading, and we were floating along to the gentle rocking of the train, pulled along by our powerful pair of locomotives.

Dinner on the Train

Our scheduled dinners were rotated by half-hour shifts, so group by group, we made our way to the dining car and each group was able to sit and eat a delicious meal while watching the enchanted snowy forest passing by –like watching a travel documentary.

An Employment Compliance Delay

Shortly after we returned from dinner in the dining car, the train slowed and stopped on a flatish stretch of land. We were informed that our crew of train employees were about to exceed their allotted hours of continuous hours on the job, since they had all been working since the California Zephyr had pulled out of the Union Station... in CHICAGO! All staff had to stop working and clock out, and we had to wait for a replacement staff to clock in for the next shift. The good news was that much of the staff had had the opportunity to clock out and sleep in the sleeping car, so they could rotate back in, but our conductor had to be replaced before we could proceed.

So we waited, waiting for our replacement main conductor who had been notified and was on her way from Grand Junction, and this would take better than an hour. We were invited off the train where one of the employees entertained passengers in a sheltered bar or barn that was alongside the tracks - this helped to pass the time. Many passengers had a jammin' great time enjoying the impromptu musical entertainment. The day passed into evening and kept getting darker and darker. We waited and just like paint eventually dries, we spotted a taxi cab pull up on a road running parallel to the train tracks. Emerging from the cab and carrying luggage was a determined-looking woman striding confidently toward the train. She immediately took charge and soon the train was humming along, once again heading for our destination in Glenwood Springs.

We continued our climb into the mountains, amazed by the treed forests on our right side and the drop-off to the streams and rivers on the left, as we passed through dozens of tunnels of varying length.

A Rock Slide – Another Delay

Quite suddenly, the train pulled to a halt once again. The disconnected voice over the loudspeaker announced that the train sensors had detected a rock slide that occurred ahead and that we'd be delayed for 30 minutes to an hour as we waited until railroad crews cleared the rock and slide debris located on the other side of the tunnel just ahead of us. We were encouraged to relax and wait until the tracks were clear and we got the go-ahead. We relaxed and waited for the all-clear announcement.

An Overnight Stay in a Rather Uncomfortable Setting

When the next announcement came over the loudspeaker, we all knew that we were doomed. Sadly, we were informed that clearing of this rockslide would take much longer than the previously believed hour or so and that we might as well get ourselves ready to spend the night, like it or not. Heavy equipment would be required to be brought in and crews would be working all night long.

Well, we certainly weren't going to be able to honor our hotel reservations at the Hotel Denver in Glenwood Springs that night. Our fearless Glenwood Springs tour director and planner Anna made an emergency call to inform the management of our plight. Management assured Anna that under the circumstances, we wouldn't be charged for not arriving tonight. So, we were all slated to stay at the "Hotel California Zephyr" in our sleeping seats that did slide back to a semi-comfortable position.

Here's where the fate of Jean L and Karen who had been sequestered and assigned seats in another part of the car takes on a bright note. They noticed that the passengers seated around them had all gotten off the train at previous stops and there were ample seats free for them to stretch out and sleep comfortably. And the final revenge that they enjoyed was that they didn't invite any of us to join them in the "luxury sleeping" area.

On Our Way..... BACK to Denver

As morning dawned, I don't recall anyone sighing and feeling amazed by how well they slept that night (except Jean and Karen). Pity packets of meager snacks were distributed by Amtrak staff to minimally console us for our hardship experience on "Hotel California Zephyr". The AM announcement and wake-up call bringing us all back to reality was not the news that we had been hoping for. Alas, the rockslide ahead was much more extensive than earlier believed. The train repair crew would have to haul in heavy equipment and clear the tracks, and that would take several days. We were returning to Denver; this time, reversing our travelogue, traveling backwards to catch alternative transportation to Glenwood Springs upon our return to downtown Denver where this story began.

And so, once again, a day later, we took in the gorgeous sights with snow-covered trees and vistas, pristine streams and tunnels, only in reverse. A few hours later, we arrived at the all too familiar Union Station. Pulling into the terminal, we caught sight of two travel busses and assumed that they were waiting and ready to take

us to our destination. One of our stalwart fellow travelers whose name will remain unmentioned expressed her frustration and announced that she wanted nothing more than to go home at this point. In response, our fearless leader, Jean Reynolds, firmly announced that NOBODY was going home – EVERYBODY was going to stay on this trip. Yes Ma'am.

A Bus Trip

We detrained, got our luggage and were directed to our alternative mode of "transportation" - a huge travel bus that was truly a sight for sore eyes and weary bodies. We loaded up, got ourselves comfortable and were once again headed for Glenwood Springs.

Our friendly, gregarious bus driver more than made up for our lost time. He was an excellent guide, pointing out various sights along the way, kept an ongoing dialog and was determined to assure us that we were experiencing the much better sight-seeing mode of travel as we sped along the highway and through some of the most breathtaking parts of Colorado, through mountains and gorges and even a few tunnels to arrive, just over 24 hours late at the Hotel Denver in Glenwood Springs.

Hotel Denver was truly a sight for weary eyes. The rooms were amazing that challenge the term spacious. Each room had two large beds, extra baths, some were suites with amenities and furnishings that were grand and luxurious. Once we were settled, we all had to tour each other's rooms and to show off the uniqueness of our own. No regrets!

(Watch for parts 2 and 3 or this continuing saga as reported by Eunice Ciaccio!!)

Become a two minute activist

Even if you really don't think of yourself as a political activist, you should sign up for the two minute activist on the AAUW.org website. You will be sent by email a summary of the issues facing women and girls in government with the opportunity to contact your congress members. You have the option to just delete it or contact your government leaders.

The best part is that you can see what our national organization is monitoring and you can unsubscribe any time you want. Oh yes, and they will not ask you for any money.

- Log on to aauw.org
- In the search box on the top right corner, type in two minute activist
- This will take you to another page where the top choice is two minute activist sign up
- Click on this and toward the bottom of the page there is a box to enter your email address and press submit
- Done

Thanks, and have a great summer.

Lois Boschee for Public Policy



JUNE



- Monday:** HARDY HIKERS: C: Pip Bodkin, 206-427-2444
5 Hike Spruce Mountain. Call Suzanne Stahlbuhk
12 Hike Pancake Rocks Call Gini Simonson
19 Hike Seven Bridges Call Michele Strub
26 Hike St. Mary's Falls Call Gini Simonson
- Tuesday:**
6 TECHNOLOGY: 9:30 a.m. C: Peggy Wimberly, 598-8017, pwimb659@comcast.net.
Hostess: Judie Werschky, 3112 Leslie Dr., 80909. 632-9989, cell 661-1874, judiewer@aol.com
13 DINNER BOOK CLUB: C: Martha Lee, 594-9039, mleewest@live.com. Meet at 5:45 at Marion's home, 530 Paisley Dr., 226-8025. B: *The Last Painting of Sarah de Vos* by Dominic Smith.
27 MORNING GLORY READERS BOOK CLUB: 10:00. C: Gini Simonson, 481-8843. Book *The Art Forger* by B.A. Shapiro, hosted by Marilyn Feaster, 10018 Palisade Ridge Dr. 80920. RSVP to Hostess 578-1331
UFO'S (UNFINISHED OBJECTS): 1:00 p.m. C: Wynn Weidner, 598-5259, wynnweidner@q.com. Hostess: Susan Wright (birthday girl!), 11985 Sunset Crater Rd., (Peyton), 393-5045. RSVP to Susan.
- Wednesday:**
SOUTHWEST STUDIES: Chair, Eunice Ciaccio, 719-465-2911, euninco.11@comcast.net
June 5-9 Southwest Studies Trip to Albuquerque, New Mexico and nearby Historical Areas
21 LUNCHEON NOVEL I: 11:45 a.m. Co-chairs: Georgina Burns, 598-7773 & Sally Mathewson, 473-0228. Hostess: Ilene. Book: *Valley of Amazement* by Amy Tan. DL: Georgina
LUNCHEON NOVEL, TOO: 12:00 noon. C: June Hallenbeck, 598-2979, junehallenbeck@comcast.net. Hostess: Betty Slaughter, 245 Raven Hills Rd, 548-8524. Co-H: Jan Gregg, idyllpines@comcast.net, 330-9566. B: *Daisy Miller* by Henry James. DL: Betty.
28 CHOCOLATE LOVERS: 11:30 a.m. Co-chairs: Ellie Solomon – 630-7465, elron3@msn.com & Sally Mathewson - 473-0228. TBA
- Thursday:**
1 WOMEN WHO WRITE: 9:30 a.m. C: Janet Condit, 277-7590, jjcondit@msn.com. Hostess, Refreshments, Facilitator: Debbie Brewer, 1750 Brantfeather Grove, 201-1883, deborah1brewer@gmail.com.
1,8,15,22,29 MAH JONGG: 1 p.m. Valley Hi Golf Course. Contact Susan Bydalek at 465-2707 or sbydalek@yahoo.com. Optional lunch at noon.
- Friday:**
2 EXPLORING LIVES AND CULTURES: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Meeting at East Library, Room E1. Co-chairs: Eunice Ciaccio, 465-2911, eunico.11@comcast.net & Janet Friedberg, 596-1846, janetfriedberg@comcast.net. (LGBT Pride Month) *Becoming Nichole: The Transformation of an American Family* by Amy Ellis Nutt.

Friday (continued):

- 9 BRIDGE LITE: Play at Patty Jewett. Contact Lois Boschee, loisbos68@gmail.com
- 16 LOCAL HISTORY: 10:00 a.m. C: Judie Werschky, 632-9989, judiewer@aol.com, Gill Center, 103 E. Costilla. Planning meeting for 2017 - 18.
- 23 BRIDGE LITE: Play at Patty Jewett. Contact Lois Boschee, loisbos68@gmail.com

Saturday

- 24 FOG (FRIENDS OF THE GRAPE): 6:00 - 8:00 F.O.G. will be hosted by Gini and Jim Simonson, 1525 Woodrose Ct, 80921. It is summertime and time to get out your Hawaiian Aloha attire and enjoy Pu Pu's on the deck. Please bring a bottle of wine or beer and a Pu Pu appetizer to share. Please respond by Email or phone gini.jim@comcast.net or 481-8843.



AAUW Authors' Day

October 28, 2017

8:30-Noon

Colorado Springs Shrine Club

Authors:

Anna Blake – Stable Relation

Barbara Nickless – Blood on the Tracks

Fran Pilch – Invisible

Save the
Date!



JULY



Monday: HARDY HIKERS: C: Pip Bodkin, 206-427-2444

- 3 Hike Spruce Mountain Call Lois Boschee
- 10 Hike Fox Run & Picnic Call Gini Simonson
- 17 Hike Sand Creek Call Linda McInay
- 24 Hike Mt. Muscoco Call Nancy Holt
- 31 Hike Catamount Trail Call Judy Leiseth

Tuesday:

- 4 TECHNOLOGY: No Meeting.
- 11 DINNER BOOK CLUB: C: Martha Lee, 594-9039, mleewest@live.com. Meet at The Golden Bee, 1 Lake Ave., 634-7711. Host: Nedra Engelson. Book: *What She Knew* by Gilly MacMillan
- 28 MORNING GLORY READERS BOOK CLUB: 10:00. C: Gini Simonson, 481-8843
Book is *Delicious* by Ruth Reichl, hosted by Nancy Holt, 6404 Gunslinger Dr. 80923 RSVP to Hostess 405-880-1277
- UFO'S (UNFINISHED OBJECTS): 1:00 p.m. C: Wynn Weidner, 598-5259, wynnweidner@q.com. Hostess: TBA. RSVP to hostess or Wynn.

Wednesday:

- 19 LUNCHEON NOVEL I: 11:45 a.m. Co-chairs: Georgina Burns, 598-7773 & Sally Mathewson, 473-0228. Hostess: TBD Book: *LITTLE BEACH ST. BAKERY* by Jenny Colgan
- 26 AMIABLE AMBLERS: 10:00 Short hike and planning meeting with pot-luck salad luncheon. Hostess: June Hallenbeck, 115 Dolomite Dr., 598-2979, junehallenbeck@comcast.net. Contact June for details.
- CHOCOLATE LOVERS: 1:30 p.m. Co-chairs: Ellie Solomon, 630-7465, elron3@msn.com & Sally Mathewson, 473-0228, mathewson3@juno.com. TBA

Thursday:

- 6 WOMEN WHO WRITE: 9:30 a.m. C: Janet Condit, 277-7590, jjcondit@msn.com. Hostess, Refreshments and Facilitator: Irmgard von der Gathen, 7 Thayer Road, 634-0445 or ivondergathen@comcast.net. Please RSVP to Irmgard.
- 6,13,20,27 MAH JONGG: 1 p.m. Valley Hi Golf Course. Contact Susan Bydalek at 465-2707 or sbydalek@yahoo.com. Optional lunch at noon.

Friday:

- 7 EXPLORING LIVES AND CULTURES: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Meeting at the East Library, Room E1. Co-chairs: Eunice Ciaccio, 465-2911, eunico.11@comcast.net and Janet Friedberg, 596-1846, janetfriedberg@comcast.net. *Euphoria* by Lily King
- 14 BRIDGE LITE: Play at Patty Jewett. Contact Lois Boschee, loisbos68@gmail.com
- 28 BRIDGE LITE: Play at Patty Jewett. Contact Lois Boschee, loisbos68@gmail.com.

Saturday:

- 22 FOG (FRIENDS OF THE GRAPE): 6-8 pm. It's the "Good Old Summertime" and time to get out and enjoy a summer evening with friends. Join Ken and June Hallenbeck at 115 Dolomite Drive with an appetizer and bottle of wine (or other drink of your choice). Let June know if you can come at 598-2979 or junehallenbeck@comcast.net and we'll set out the welcome mat for you. Everyone is welcome!



AUGUST



- Monday:** **HARDY HIKERS:** C: Pip Bodkin, 206-427-2444
- 7 Hike Palmer Park . Call Janet Friedberg
- 14 Hike Lizard Rock Call Nona Hentschel
- 21 Hike Cheeseman Canyon Call Lois, Jean O, Nona
- 28 Hike Rainbow Gulch Call Marilyn Feaster
- Tuesday:**
- 1 **TECHNOLOGY:** 9:30 AM. C: Berneice Yoder, 380-9110, beryo31@msn.com.
There is no hostess scheduled at this time. Let the new Chairman, Berneice Yoder, know if you would volunteer.
- 8 **DINNER BOOK CLUB:** C: Martha Lee, 594-9039, mleewest@live.com Meet at Olive Garden, 513 Academy Blvd., 591-1210. Host: Kay Atteberry. Book: *Traveling with Pomegranates* by Sue Monk Kidd.
- 22 **BRIDGE LITE:** Play at Patty Jewett. Contact Lois Boschee, loisbos68@gmail.com.
- MORNING GLORY READERS BOOK CLUB:** 10:00. C: Gini Simonson, 481-8843
Book is *Beneath the Marble Sky* by John Shores, hosted by Gini Simonson, 1525 Woodrose Ct. 80921 RSVP to Hostess 481-8843.
- UFO'S (UNFINISHED OBJECTS):** 1:00 p.m. C: Wynn Weidner, 598-5259, wynnweidner@q.com. Hostess: TBA. RSVP to hostess or Wynn.
- Wednesday:**
- 9 **SOUTHWEST STUDIES:** 1:30 to 3:30p.m. Chair: Eunice Ciaccio, 465-2911, eunico.11@comcast.net. Location: -. Planning Meeting and light lunch at the Tim Gill Center, 315 E. Castillo. Further details TBA.
- 16 **LUNCHEON NOVEL I:** 11:45 a.m. Co-chairs: Georgina Burns, 598-7773 & Sally Mathewson, 473-0228. Hostess: TBD Book: THE NIGHTINGALE by Kristen Hannah
- 23 **CHOCOLATE LOVERS:** 1:30 p.m. Co-chairs: Ellie Solomon, 630-7465, elron3@msn.com & Sally Mathewson, 473-0228, mathewson3@juno.com. TBA
- Thursday:**
- 3 **WOMEN WHO WRITE:** 9:30 a.m. C: Janet Condit, 277-7590, jjcondit@msn.com. Hostess and Refreshments: Jeanne Marsh, 850 Timber Valley Road, 590-7237, jmarsh@pcisys.net.
Facilitator: June Hallenbeck. Please RSVP to Jeanne.
- 3,10,17,24,31 **MAH JONGG:** 1 p.m. Valley Hi Golf Course. Contact Susan Bydalek at 465-2707 or sbydalek@yahoo.com. Optional lunch at noon.
- Friday:**
- 4 **EXPLORING LIVES AND CULTURES:** 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Meeting at the East Library, Room E1. Co-chairs: Eunice Ciaccio, 465-2911, eunico.11@comcast.net and Janet Friedberg, 596-1846, janetfriedberg@comcast.net. *Louisa Catherine: The Other Mrs. Adams* by Margery M Heffron.
- 11 **BRIDGE LITE:** Play at Patty Jewett. Contact Lois Boschee, loisbos68@gmail.com
- 25 **BRIDGE LITE:** Play at Patty Jewett. Contact Lois Boschee, loisbos68@gmail.com.

Branch President: Paula Munger, 1306 Wood Ave., 80903, 203-6991,
pjmunger@aol.com.

Dues/Renewals: Frieda Dunlap, 6240 Gemstone Way, 80918, 598-2336
ffdunlap@hotmail.com

Address/Directory Changes: June Hallenbeck, 115 Dolomite Dr., 80919, 598-2979
junehallenbeck@comcast.net.

Prospective Members: Marilyn Feaster, 10018 Palisade Ridge Dr., 80920, 578-1331 or
494-3386 mfeaster88@yahoo.com.

Newsletter: Deadline is **August 17** for the **September** newsletter. Send interest group notices and news item to June Hallenbeck, 115 Dolomite Dr., Colorado Springs, CO 80919, or junehallenbeck@comcast.net.

AAUW Mission:

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

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

COLORADO SPRINGS BRANCH

10018 PALISADE RIDGE DR.

COLORADO SPRINGS, CO, 80920