



# AAUW MAUI BRANCH



## JUNE 2018 NEWSLETTER

*AAUW = Advancing equity for women and girls. In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.*

### AAUW NATIONAL NEWS

## ***Are you a Two-Minute Activist?***

***Take action on issues impacting women and girls by joining AAUW's Action Network. All it takes is two minutes and an internet connection. As a Two-Minute Activist, you will receive urgent email notices when your advocacy is needed most. We'll provide all the tools you need to call or send messages to your members of Congress, write letters to the editor for your local newspapers, contact your state legislators about pressing issues, and more.***

### Become A Two-Minute Activist - it's easy!

Receive urgent e-mail notices to contact your members of Congress right in your inbox. Join the AAUW Action Network today! Just go the AAUW.org, sign in, and go to the **Two-Minute Activist**. Sign up to receive updates on important issues on issues effecting women, then send a quick message to your representatives in Congress. So easy, and so effective. And a reminder; June 9 is the deadline for voting on AAUW national bylaw amendments, Please go the AAUW National website [aauw.org](http://aauw.org) for details and information about voting on the amendments.

An updated version of AAUW's report "**Deeper in Debt: Women and Student Loans**" found that women now hold almost two-thirds (\$890 billion) of the country's \$1.4-trillion student debt. The ever-growing cost of college disproportionately burdens women, who take on more debt during their education and struggle to pay it back, in part due to the gender pay gap. The Government Accountability Office accepted a request by Sens. Patty Murray (D-WA) and Tammy Duckworth (D-IL) to study the obstacles parenting students face in completing their degrees. Duckworth and Murray are co-sponsors of the Child Care Access Means Parents in Schools (CCAMPIS) Reauthorization Act, which would expand access and increase affordability of on-campus childcare for parenting students.



**A VISIT FROM OUR CEO: Kimberly Churches, CEO of AAUW National, (center with lei) visited Maui on May 1st and enjoyed lunch at The 5 Palms with branch members.**

**From left:** Terry Rosenstock (our newest member), Karen Grafe, Marilyn Lytle, Colleen O'Laughlin, Pat Gotschalk, Kim Churches, Bonnie King, Cathy Thompson, Sandi Boll, Pamela Schulz, Janet Walker, Jean Keating

Shortly after Kimberly's visit, Janet Walker received a letter from her. *"What a pleasure to spend time with you and the AAUW Maui branch members! Thank you very much for kindly inviting me, and for a delicious meal and substantive discussion. I'm thinking of all of our friends and my heart breaks for everyone on the Big Island impacted by the devastating lava flow. Please know that all of us in Washington are thinking of our Hawaiian sisters and brothers. For now, heartfelt gratitude, **Kim***

**AAUW MAUI BRANCH NEWS AND EVENTS**

	<p><i>Co-Presidents' Message</i></p> <p><i>Cathy Thompson &amp; Janet Walker</i></p>	
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On July 1, we begin our new fiscal year, 2018-2019. We want to take a brief look at the branch highlights of the past year and thank all of you who helped maintain our vitality, progress, and mission.

Our active membership is now at 69, largely due to our fantastic Membership Mixer organized by Jean Keating in January, where we signed up 13 new members. Sadly, Cornelia Spanier passed away in December at the age of 102. Until the end, she was attending Speaker Meetings and Lunch Bunch, making donations for silent auctions, and endowing a \$2000 scholarship to Maui College. Her smiling and generous personality will be missed.

To ensure our branch is meeting our members' needs, the board conducted an electronic survey last spring. Results indicated an overall satisfaction with the current structure, but also that members are open to new ideas.

The **Whale Watch**, our highly successful fundraiser for scholarships for UH Maui College, was led this year by Pat Gotschalk. Sold out again, this very enjoyable event funded three \$2000 scholarships. (Over the past 20 years, we have donated more than \$100,000 in scholarships). Our fundraiser has been featured in AAUW's national Outlook Magazine. (Everyone likes to dream about Maui!) We gave several of our recent graduates free one-year memberships in AAUW through the *Give a Grad a Gift* program.

Our **Speaker Meetings** incorporated our business meetings September through May (except for the December Holiday Party). Coordinated by Program Vice-President Virginia Shaw, the meetings were well attended, with 20 to 40 members and guests attending. Our speakers were closely aligned with AAUW issues – *Title IX at UHMC, Transgender rights, Women's History, American Pioneers of Equality (by our own Carol Hogard), STEM education for girls, and Immigration Law*. Other programs were about hospice care, local women authors and volunteer opportunities in the community. Our field trips to the Nisei Veterans Memorial Center and Kealia National Wildlife Refuge were enlightening and enjoyable.

Our **Book Club** Interest Group, chaired by Dorothy Tolliver, met monthly at members' homes to discuss both fiction and non-fiction books. Over the past year, members read excellent books on diverse themes: *Nine Parts of Desire, The Gentleman from Moscow, The Orchardist, Pachinko, La Rose, The Danish Girl, Hillbilly Elegy, Underground Airlines, and My Beloved World*.

Sara Green chairs the monthly **Lunch Bunch** Interest Group, which explored new island restaurants and provided members with a chance to socialize and discuss issues of mutual interest.

In addition to our educational programming and scholarships, we also gave back to our community with our voices and our time. We participated in the Women's March the last two years and recently helped collect food and money for the Maui Food Bank. At our Holiday Party, we donated gifts and money to the Women Helping Women Shelter.

At the **State and National** levels, we were also active – 5 members attended the Kona State Convention, and 3 members attended the National Convention in Washington DC. Janet did a training presentation at the state convention. Cathy worked on the agenda for the convention and is the AAUW Hawaii State Treasurer. (For a full report on the convention, please go to the AAUW-Kona Branch website.) Many of our members participated in the "2 Minute Activist" online to communicate to local and national legislators support for our AAUW mission (Interested? See page 1).

The next **Board meeting** will be held on Sunday, June 10, at 1 PM, at Cathy Thompson's house, 22 Huluhulu Place in Kahului. We will be planning the calendar for the coming year and discussing ways in which we can benefit our community and

continue the success of our branch. We encourage every member to join us there. **We need Committee Chairs for Diversity and Inclusion, Public Policy, AAUW Funds, and a Webmaster.** One way to feel part of the group is to become engaged with the group, so please join us for the meeting. Please R.S.V.P. to Cathy at (808) 268-1232 by text or email at [cathyt808@gmail.com](mailto:cathyt808@gmail.com) by Friday, June 8, if you will be able to attend.

**Farewell from Janet** after 4+ years as Co-President, with many thanks to the membership for all the work and fun, and special thanks to Co-Presidents Martha Dean and Catherine Thompson. Also, many thanks to Jillian Ridington and Sandra Boll from all of us for the newsletter and announcements that keep us all together. Cathy steps into the President's role and will appreciate everyone's participation and support.

Editor's Note: and **Mahalo Nui Loa** to Janet for all the hard work she has done over the past four years. She has led us with warmth, efficiency and grace, and an open heart that makes each member feel important. We will miss her guidance, but we know that we will be in good hands with Cathy at the helm; she has been a great co-president, and we know that she will be a capable, enterprising and caring President.

Best of luck in all you do, Cathy & Janet.



## **IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP**

**Our annual renewal process is open for fiscal year July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2019. If you did not renew when National sent out an email, you may renew as an ongoing member by using the National Website's online method – it's fast and easy!**

1. Go online to <https://www.aauw.org/>
2. Click "**Login**" at the top of the page, enter your member id and password, or click "need to register" if it's your first time logging in to the national site. Member ID is in the Directory or in your email verifying your membership in national. (Registering will require a few extra steps, including confirming via email before proceeding.)
3. Click on **Member Services Database (MSD)** toward the bottom of the page.
4. Click on "**Enter the MSD**" (green rectangle)
5. Click on "**Enter Member Services Database**"
6. Click on "**Renew My Membership**" at left
7. You will be asked to pay dues by credit card (Life Members pay for local and state dues only). The amount is immediately accepted by AAUW National. National will send you an email notification that your renewal was accepted.

**Dues this year are \$59 for National, \$10 for State, and \$16 for Branch, for a total of \$85.00.**

### **Not comfortable with on-line renewal?**

Mail your check for \$85.00 to AAUW c/o Pat Gotschalk, P. O. Box 953, Wailuku, HI 96793. Please make checks payable to "AAUW Maui Branch".





At the Scholarship presentation: from left; Cathy Thompson, Janet Walker, Adah Askew, Marnie Meuser, Vanessa Chavez, Lingli Arakaki, and Pat Gotschalk

**SCHOLARSHIPS:** The awarding of three \$2000 Maui Branch scholarships is the proud accomplishment of all of you who have worked on and supported our annual Whale Watch fundraisers. Janet Walker, Cathy Thompson, and Adah Askew had the pleasure of presenting the scholarship awards and lei at the podium to our three scholarship recipients at the May 1st UH Maui College Scholarship Ceremony. Committee Chair Dorothy Tolliver and committee members Elizabeth Rogers and Janet Go, who participated in the selection work, were unable to attend.

This year our **Heritage Scholarship** was named in memory of Cornelia Spanier and was awarded to **Vanessa Chavez**. Vanessa, a nursing student in her second year, with outstanding grades and exceptional instructor recommendations, wrote to us and said, "Thank you for your generosity and support; it means the world to me. The program is challenging and at times stressful...I draw strength from you... and some of my financial stresses are alleviated".

**Marnie Meuser**, now in her sophomore year, received our **Dorothy Shimer Scholarship**. Marnie was a recipient last year and continues doing outstanding work in her studies. She told us how happy she is to have been hired for the permanent position at the Kealia Wildlife Refuge. She will continue working toward her degree part-time while working full time.

**Lingli Arakaki**, recipient of the **Haines Scholarship** and one of last year's recipients, just received her AA degree in Liberal Arts and will receive a free one-year membership in AAUW through the "Give-a-Grad-a-Gift" program. She reports she will pursue a BA degree in Interdisciplinary Studies from UH Manoa (distance learning program) with a focus on Sustainability and Translation/Interpretation.

**We congratulate these three women for their hard work and achievements!**

**DATES TO REMEMBER FOR JUNE**  
**Summer is upon us, and activities slow down. There will be no speaker meeting until September, and the book group will also take a hiatus for the summer. But LUNCH BUNCH will continue; see below for announcement. And please do plan to attend the Board meeting on Sunday, June 10, at 1:00 pm. (See p. 3)**

**Lunch Bunch:** Tuesday, June 12 Lunch Bunch will meet at 12 noon at **Seascope Restaurant at the Ma'alaea Harbor Shops** next to Maui Ocean Center Aquarium. Sara Green is away this month, so please **RSVP** with your menu selection to Janet Walker by **Monday, June 11**. Call **530-409-0192** or email [bjpwalker@comcast.net](mailto:bjpwalker@comcast.net). Kamaaina rates will apply.

**Please note:** You do not need to pay the entry fee for the Ocean Center to go to the restaurant. There are steps down to the restaurant entrance on the shopping center side of the Ocean Center. ***If you need to cancel your reservation, please contact the restaurant directly.*** Parking can be scarce at the Ocean Center, so car-pooling would be a good idea.

**Please look through the wonderful new Directory Sandra Boll has just created to see if there is a new member you could welcome to the branch by offering a ride to Lunch Bunch!**

Please see attachment for the Seascope Lunch Menu, or click this link:

[Seascope Maalaea Lunch Menu](#)



**HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MAY 26th SPEAKER MEETING:** Maui immigration lawyer **Kevin Block** (left, below) gave a topical and important talk on immigration law. For those who missed the presentation, Kevin provided this short summary:



### **Immigration 101: Asylum in the age of Trump**

The first step in assisting someone is to determine their status, i.e. citizen, lawful permanent resident, temporary visa holder or undocumented. In Hawaii, we also have many “COFA” residents who are citizens of Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands or Palau who are here legally pursuant to the Compact of Free Association.

There are essentially three routes to permanent residence in the U.S.: family- based petitions, employment-based petitions and humanitarian relief, which includes Asylum. Asylum law developed in the aftermath of World War II to deal with the forced migration of people fleeing violence and persecution. A person is eligible for Asylum if they fear returning to their country of origin because they will be persecuted based on their race, religion, national origin, political opinion or particular social group.

Under the law, a person presents themselves at a port of entry and requests asylum. The Trump Administration and AG Jeff Sessions have implemented policies that are increasingly hostile to Asylum seekers and go against the traditional practices and international agreements that address refugees. Among these policies is the new practice of treating any entry as a criminal matter. Parents are taken into custody and separated from their children, who then appear in Immigration Court without their parents and often unrepresented. This is done to deter refugees from seeking Asylum at our Southern border. Members who wish to get involved in preventing this practice should contact their congressional representatives, the ACLU, Amnesty International and the Hawaii Coalition for Immigration Reform.

Also at the Speaker Meeting, our branch installed its new officers for the coming year, including our new Vice President for Membership, **Debbie Priest** (right), who replaces Jean Keating. Mahalo to Jean for all her hard work, and welcome to the AAUW Maui Board, Debbie!

**Debbie Priest**  
**Membership Vice President**



STEP UP to the plate! Joining the **Membership Committee** is a fantastic way to get to know our members. Please contact Debbie Priest if you are interested.

(808) 871-7720 or [debbie@roselaniplace.com](mailto:debbie@roselaniplace.com)

JUNE BIRTHDAYS: HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO . . .

JILLIAN RIDINGTON, JUNE 27

ANDREA RUBIO, JUNE 29

JEAN KEATING, JUNE 30



As your editor is off-island and three time-zones away for the summer, do please send **all** reports, announcements and other material for the **JULY** AAUW Maui Branch Newsletter to Jillian Ridington at:  
[jillianbrid@gmail.com](mailto:jillianbrid@gmail.com)

by **JUNE 20TH** – Machala.

(And do please bring your camera to AAUW get-togethers and send in your photos for the newsletter.)

HAPPY SUMMER TO YOU ALL!

