



## AAUW MAUI BRANCH

DECEMBER 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

**FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF PUBLIC POLICY AND RESEARCH:** Recently, I had the honor of attending an event honoring the 50th anniversary of Shirley Chisholm's historic election to the U.S. House of Representatives. Fifty years after Representative Chisholm became the first African American woman in Congress, she still serves as an icon and example for women who continue to diversify and change the conversation, not just in the halls of Congress, but everywhere. The event provided such a fitting moment of reflection after this past election. The midterm elections ushered in changes at all levels of government, but the dominant story of this election was the power of women. Women voters came out in droves to demand their voices be heard, and an unprecedented number of women from diverse backgrounds ran for office and won. Beating the former record of 112 women in both chambers of the current Congress, at least 125 women will serve in the 116th Congress — 102 in the House and 23 in the Senate. Additionally, at least nine women will lead their states as governors. This was a record-breaking election for the representation of women, and in particular, women of color.

In addition to the notable firsts, this election also conveyed a larger message — gender equity is a winning issue. Members of Congress are coming to Washington with a charge from voters to stop the erosion of rights we've seen in the past two years. We are excited to work with the 116th Congress to strengthen equal pay laws, make workplaces and schools safer for women and girls, and help all families succeed. And we will continue to fight the rollbacks of these protections coming from the administration — read on to learn more about the attack on Title IX and how AAUW is taking action. It's time to hold all our elected officials accountable to ensure they are working to advance gender equity for all women and girls. Onward!

Deborah J. Vagins

AAUW Senior Vice President of Public Policy & Research

**THE NEWS FROM THE STATE HOUSES IS GOOD AS WELL:** At the state level, women ran and women won in record numbers. Nine will lead their states as governors and at least 2,019 women will serve in their state legislative chambers. Women will comprise 27.3 percent of state legislatures — a substantial increase

from the current level of 25.4 percent. Nevada may reach parity between men and women in their state legislature. Colorado is also close to reaching this benchmark, which no state legislature has ever managed to accomplish.

The other trend we saw at the state level was the rise of single-party control and consolidation of statehouses. After the midterm elections, only one state — Minnesota — will have legislative chambers that are controlled by different parties. And at least 36 states will have government trifectas, with the same party controlling both chambers and the governor's mansion. This polarization means that it will be easier to advance legislation at the state level, but AAUW will have to continue our work to ensure that those policies are advantageous to women. In addition to these electoral milestones, this election also conveyed a larger message — gender equity is a winning issue. Candidates who discussed issues central to the well-being of working families often won. Now it's time to hold all our elected officials accountable to ensure they are working to advance gender equity for all women and girls. We look forward to working together and are excited about what's to come.

***“To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.”***

That's AAUW's mission, and education has been central to our work since we were founded in 1881. That's why [Title IX](#) is such a big part of our history — it was the first comprehensive federal law to prohibit sex discrimination in education and opened classroom doors for women and girls. Since Title IX's implementation, schools have made huge strides in providing equal access to education. Keeping schools free from sex discrimination is key to opportunity. Without the protections of Title IX, schools can discriminate, and women students are less likely to succeed.

**[Title IX is central to AAUW's mission — and we need your help to make sure it continues to protect women and girls from discrimination in education.](#)**

The Department of Education announced a plan to make sweeping changes to Title IX's regulations, which would have significant implications for students' civil rights and for federal enforcement of the law. Title IX protects *all* students from discrimination — students of all genders, from kindergarten through college. These proposed changes would weaken Title IX's protections by narrowing the definition of sexual harassment to allow schools to exclude much of the abuse students experience, limiting when schools will respond, and putting in place processes that make it harder for students to come forward when they experience sexual harassment or assault. Simply put, these changes will make schools less safe for students. **[With progress under threat, we all must make our voices heard.](#)**

Over the next 60 days, we have an opportunity to weigh in with the Department of Education on their proposed changes. Now is the time to stand up against any rollbacks to students' Title IX rights. Add your name today to help AAUW fight for equity in education by protecting Title IX. Go to [AAUW.org](#) and click on **TAKE ACTION**.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

# AAUW MAUI BRANCH NEWS



*Cathy Thompson*

## *President's Message for December*

We hope all of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving! Now, it's time to begin your holiday celebrations with the Maui Branch Holiday Potluck Party on **Sunday the 9<sup>th</sup>** at Janet and Bob Walker's home. Please come to socialize and celebrate the season. Each year, as part of the philanthropy portion of our mission, we share our AAUW generosity by bringing wrapped, labelled gifts for the women and children in the Women Helping Women shelters. Checks are also greatly appreciated to help the shelter create a memorable holiday for families in need.

Here is a wonderful gift idea for your family and friends and those you wish to thank for services (your hair stylist, the gardener at your condo?) -- tickets to our famous annual Whale Watch Fundraiser! Call or email Terry Rosenstock or Pat Gotschalk, and they will get your tickets to you in time for the holidays. Scheduled for the first Sunday in March (March 3, 2019), the Whale Watch is always a beautiful outing. It's great fun for everyone and educational, too. This is AAUW Maui's major fundraiser and funds our student scholarships. Donations to the scholarship fund are welcome and are tax deductible. As an example of their importance to the recipients, please see Vanessa Chavez's letter below.

Our dedicated Secretary, Jennifer Bohlin, has decided to expand her horizons and venture off to the Boulder, Colorado, area this December. She will be gone for a year. We will miss her friendly, efficient attitude and work ethic, but wish her well in her new endeavors. Hopefully, she will come back with lots of good ideas from her new branch, too. Our own Pam Schulz has agreed to be our interim Secretary until the elections in the spring.

Please mark your calendars for the next Board Meeting for our Maui Branch on Sunday, January 13, 2019, at 1 p.m. at Cathy Thompson's house. We encourage every member come and help put into place our plans for 2018-2019! One way to feel part of the group is to be part of the group, so please join us for the meeting.

December is the halfway point for our AAUW year. We have many interesting events coming up: the Whale Watch, interesting speakers (including our own Carol Hogard in February), a field trip/tour, a brunch to help recruit new members, Book Club meetings, Lunch Bunch outings, Bottles and Bites, Movie Nights, and perhaps dinner outings.

Soon it will be the time when to form a nominating committee to create a slate of officer nominations for the Branch membership to vote on at our April meeting. Please give some thought to taking positive action and volunteering. Working with fellow branch members to further the mission of the branch and AAUW as a whole is

very rewarding. Current positions open for next year include President, Vice-President for Programs, and Secretary, as well as some committee chairs. Mentoring and support come with the jobs! **Happy Holidays! Cathy**



**BOOK GROUP: DECEMBER 1.** The AAUW Maui Book Group will meet on Sat., Dec. 1, 2018, at 12 noon at Karen Camilli's home, 2619 S. Kihei Rd. #A201. Phone (808) 879-7618. Bring your sack lunch. We will discuss *Radio Free Vermont: A Fable of Resistance* by Bill McKibben. As the host of Radio Free Vermont (underground, underpowered, and underfoot.) 72-year-old Vern Barclay is currently broadcasting from an "undisclosed and double-secret location." With the help of a young computer prodigy named Perry Alterson, Vern uses his radio show to advocate for a simple yet radical idea: an independent Vermont, one where the state secedes from the United States and operates under a free local economy. But for now, he and his radio show must remain untraceable, because in addition to being a lifelong Vermonter and concerned citizen, Vern Barclay is also a fugitive from the law. January's book will be *The Japanese Lover* by Isabel Allende.

**Please come to the Maui Branch AAUW'S Holiday Potluck Party!!**

**Date:** Sunday, December 9 **Time:** 3:00 to 6:00 pm.

**Location:** Janet and Bob Walker's home, 792 Kumulani Drive, Maui Meadows, Kihei. **Directions:** Going South towards Wailea on Piilani Hwy, turn Left on Mikioi Place (the first left after stoplight at Mapu/Kilohana), Right on Akala, first Left on Hoala, first Left on Kumulani Drive. .6 miles to the top of the hill, 792 is on the right, half way along the block. Parking is available along the street, & handicapped parking at the top of the driveway.

**Potluck:** Bring a ready-to-serve dish, appetizer or dessert to share. Punch provided; feel free to bring your own beverage.

**Gifts:** Please bring a wrapped gift to donate to the women and children who will spend the holidays in the Women Helping Women shelter. Attach a label describing the type of gift, the age level, and the size if your gift is for a woman. Checks or cash donations are welcome and much appreciated.

The holiday party is a wonderful way to get to know our members, make new friends and renew old friendships. Partners and significant others are invited.

**LUNCH BUNCH:** December's Lunch Bunch will be held as usual on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, Dec. 11th at 12 noon. Venue and menu TBA. For further information, please contact Sara Green: ~~aaauwlunchbunch@gmail.com~~

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



### **AAUW MAUI MEMBERS AT CLASS ACT**

A group of AAUW Maui Members enjoyed a luncheon feast at Class Act on the University of Hawaii Maui campus on November 7th. From left front: Susan Werner, Karin Camilli, Lani Scott, Alicia Hetman, Martha Dean, Kate Acks, Dorothy Tolliver, Kristi Scott, Marc Tolliver, Jerry Green, Sara Green and MaryMargaret Baker Photo: courtesy Sara Green

## **WHALE WATCH TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE!**



**And they make a great present or stocking stuffer. The Whale Watch is our biggest fund-raising event, with the proceeds going to fund scholarships for students at the University of Hawaii, Maui College. The 2019 Whale Watch will be held on Sunday, March 3rd, 2019. Great pupus, good company, and the possibility of seeing a whole lot of whales. Tickets are \$40 each and can be purchased at our Speaker Meetings and other events from Pat Gotschalk or Terry Rosenstock, our hard-working Whale Watch organizers. You may also contact them personally!**

### **AAUW PUBLIC POLICY**

from Janet Walker, AAUW Maui Public Policy Chair

**It's Your AAUW, and your vote counts.** AAUW is in the process of establishing Public Priorities Proposals for 2019 – 2021.

Go to <https://www.aauw.org/resources/national-election> to read the bylaws and priorities.

You may: 1) Propose a bylaw amendment and see others' proposals;  
2) Read the proposed changes to the Public Policy Priorities Resolution and comment, or make further proposals; and/or  
3) Make a resolution of something not now in the bylaws.

**Proposed amendments can be submitted until January 11 at 6 pm ET.** Comments will be accepted until March 31, 2019.

## **AAUW CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN WOMEN'S LIVES.**

As a reminder of the importance of the scholarships we fund each year, here is an appreciative letter that AAUW Maui Branch recently received from one of the 2018 recipients, Vanessa Chavez. Vanessa was the recipient of our Heritage Scholarship, which is given in honor of our late member Cornelia Spanier.

*"I just want to start off by saying thank you to AAUW for the Heritage Scholarship in Memory of Cornelia Spanier. Thank you for your generosity and thank you for believing in me. Your kindness has truly inspired me to continue to persevere and succeed in my studies. I hope that one day I can give back to the community and have a positive impact on another student's life, the way you have impacted mine.*

*I am one of eight children and hope to become the first college graduate in my family, breaking the vicious cycle of poverty and non-education. From a young age, I understood that I had to do things differently from my parents. My parents did the best that they could for us but with too many children and a lack of education, it was a recipe for disaster. On occasion we were homeless and often had to do without essentials. This scholarship will help me pay for my living expenses and prevent me from falling further into student load debt. It is my dream to become a nurse and serve my community, which has helped shape who I am today. This scholarship will enable me to focus solely on my studies, as well as demonstrate the value of an education. Thank you again for your support and consideration.*

*Sincerely, Vanessa Chavez"*

***THANK YOU, VANESSA!***

***WE ARE GLAD WE WERE ABLE TO HELP!***



### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

10th - Virginia Shaw

15th - Linda Martin

16th - Debra Greene

22nd - Lynn Austin

26th - Barry Solomon

30th - Debbie Priest



Our delightful November speaker, **Gail Ainsworth**, gave us much insight into the lives of three important women in Maui history.

**Queen Ka’ahumanu**

**Edith Smith Baldwin**

**Patsy Takemoto Mink**

Lucky for us that Patsy Mink went into politics!

We bid a fond farewell with aloha to our Branch Secretary.

**Jennifer Bohlin**

Mahalo for your cheery smile and your excellent service as our Secretary. Enjoy your new adventure in the cold country, and know that we will always welcome you back!

🌺 *Alooooooha!* 🌺



Let’s all give a special thank you to two of our AAUW members who do so much for our Maui Branch!

**Cathy Thompson**

President

**Pat Gotschalk**

Finance Officer

& Whale Watch Chair

🍍 *Mahalo!* 🍍

