

AAUW of Idaho - Co-Presidents Pat Alpine, [patriciaalpine@gmail.com](mailto:patriciaalpine@gmail.com) & Bonnie Pfaff, [bonnie.m.pfaff@wellsfargo.com](mailto:bonnie.m.pfaff@wellsfargo.com)  
Gem State Bulletin Editor Maribeth Alder, [maribethalder@hotmail.com](mailto:maribethalder@hotmail.com)

## President's Message

By Pat Alpine, co-president, AAUW of Idaho

Happy New Year Everyone! I hope everyone had a great holiday season. I did a lot of traveling in November and December – Portland, Cuba, Florida and Los Angeles. Cuba was a fascinating country. The people are really gracious and welcoming and Old Havana (La Habana Vieja) is beautiful, crumbling buildings included. Every time you walk down a street, there is a band playing.

I stayed in Cienfuegos and Havana. I did travel “legally” with a visa obtained with a tour group called Road Scholar (formerly known as ElderHostel) that has a license to take groups into Cuba. We were on a “people-to-people” tour and while in the country we went to a leprosy hospital, a Catholic church that has an after-school program to teach people of the community English, a senior center, an arts charter/magnet school and also had three lectures from three Cuban professors on Architecture and Housing, Cuba-U.S. Relations and Religion in Cuba.

This past Saturday I attended the Advocacy training put on by TransForm Idaho. Lee Flinn, the lobbyist for AARP spoke about the context and strategy for lobbying and Hannah Brass-Greer of Planned Parenthood spoke about what to expect regarding women’s issues during this year’s legislative session.

I hope that you all will be able to attend our upcoming Winter Board meeting. I made arrangements to use the meeting room at the IBEW facility at 225 North 16<sup>th</sup> Street Boise. We will have an interesting meeting to discuss our myriad of activities that include our \$tart \$mart, our upcoming National Convention in New Orleans and our lobby day on February 11<sup>th</sup>.

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## Idaho Membership Report

By Carol Stirling, membership vp, AAUW of Idaho

One of the resources that national AAUW sends out each month is *Membership Matters Enewsletter*. I hope each branch is receiving this e-mail. It gives information on recruiting new members and how to retain current members. Take a look!

Take advantage of **free memberships** for graduates and **free memberships** earned through the Shape the Future and 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary member recruitment campaigns. Pocatello and Boise have been taking advantage of Shape the Future campaign to add new members. They find it helpful to recruit new members at a **lower cost** the first year.

An exciting new resource that national offers is a program that showcases your branch events. You can post your events on Member Showcase Calendar ([aauwcalendar@aauw.org](mailto:aauwcalendar@aauw.org)).

Remember, undergrad students at college/university partners are eligible for FREE e-affiliate membership.

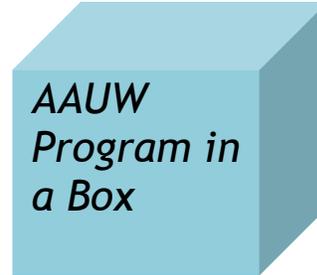
## Legal Advocacy Fund News

By Kitty Geidl, funds chair, AAUW of Idaho

AAUW has accepted a new pay discrimination lawsuit. Virginia LeBlanc, the former director of the Hudson and Holland Scholars Program at Indiana University, has filed a complaint in federal district court claiming gender and pay discrimination after allegedly facing resistance when she tried to resolve the pay disparity internally. Her case has not been scheduled yet.

Holly Kearls' book, *Stop Street Harassment: Making Public Places Safe and Welcoming for Women*, is now out in paperback. Holly is the AAUW's LAF Program Manager.

*The Invisible War*, an award-winning documentary about military sexual assault that features several LAF supported plaintiffs, is now available for rent from Netflix and is available for purchase from Amazon. The film was recently listed as the 10<sup>th</sup> movie on Time's top 100 movies of 2012. AAUW



Take advantage of an AAUW Program in a Box, such as *The Invisible War*. It was recently nominated for an Academy Award as Best Documentary Feature.

branches that would like to show the movie can download the Invisible War Program in a Box from AAUW's website.

In October, an LAF supported case concerning fairer scheduling of varsity girls' basketball games in Franklin County was settled in Indiana. The suit argued that almost all the boys' games were played in prime time, Friday and Saturday nights, compared with only about half of the girls' games. The settlement was approved by the U.S. District Court for Southern Indiana and requires progressive improvements in scheduling girls' varsity basketball games through 2017.

## AAUW National Office Visit

By Kathy Scott, president Boise Area Branch

I visited the AAUW national office in Washington, D.C., in November 2012. My trip east to visit family members coincided with the AAUW release and live streaming event of *Graduating to a Pay Gap*. I used the live streaming event as an opportunity to visit headquarters, meet many of the AAUW leadership, and attend the panel discussion on *Graduating to a Pay Gap*. As one of AAUW of Idaho's facilitators for \$tart \$mart, I feel this new report just reinforces the need for the workshop.

While in the building, I was treated to a tour of several floors of AAUW offices. Throughout the building various AAUW artifacts were available for viewing and discussion. I was most impressed with the wooden box that was originally used by organization presidents. It contained all of the relevant materials and was shipped around as different presidents were

elected. It's hard to believe that one box could contain the workings of this organization. As a branch president, I could fill that wooden box ten times over. We have grown so much and come so far since 1881. But as *Graduating to a Pay Gap* clearly illustrates, we still have great distances to cover.



Lisa Maatz, AAUW Director of Public Policy and Government Relations, toured Kathy Scott through AAUW national offices in Washington, D.C. Kathy saw the box at left which carried the entire early organization.

## CQ StateTrack: A New Legislative Tracking Tool

By Bonnie Pfaff, co-president, AAUW of Idaho

Are you tired of our state legislators pushing bills that would limit a woman's right to choose, weaken our education system, or reduce access for higher education? Do you wish you knew about these threats to AAUW priority issues the moment the bills were introduced? And what about the good bills, the ones that will move us forward and that we want to lead on? AAUW of Idaho now has a state-of-the-art legislative tracking tool to help us take effective and timely action on policy issues in our state.

CQ StateTrack allows the AAUW staff in Washington, D.C. to work with our state leaders to track state legislation that affects our AAUW priority issues. We will use CQ StateTrack to create a profile for our state, which includes a set of keywords, committees, and legislators that will be used in automatic searches of state bills. The searches will automatically generate email alerts when state legislation containing one of our keywords is introduced, being heard in committee, or ready for a floor vote. The search can also generate web reports to give us a snapshot of what the state legislature is considering at any one time, based on our state's keywords and key issues.

CQ StateTrack is a game-changer for our state's advocacy on AAUW priority issues. Through its policy experts in Washington, D.C., AAUW already has the capability to track federal legislation down to

this specific, instantaneous level, and CQ StateTrack will extend that capability to state legislation in our state.

We have embedded the CQ StateTrack legislative report on our AAUW of Idaho website (<http://aauw-id.aauw.net/>) so that our site becomes a go-to place for up-to-date information on legislation affecting women and families in Idaho. With this new service, AAUW of Idaho will be one of the first advocacy organizations in our state to know about pending legislation. We will be able to make quick decisions about taking positions on new bills and taking a leadership role for or against particular legislation.

You can find the link to CQ State Track on the AAUW of Idaho website homepage, AAUW Links, Legislative Report. Please keep in mind that the state legislative session just started and we have not yet been able to see this tool in full action yet. This is all new to us and we will be in a "learning curve" as far as figuring out the reports and how best to utilize the information.

At this point, we want you to be aware of CQ StateTrack and how to find it on our website. Please become familiar with it and watch its progress. You can contact me if you want more information.

## \$tart \$mart is Growing

By Kathy Scott, certified \$\$ facilitator

Boise Area Branch co-facilitators Julie Custer and Kathy Scott will conduct four behavioral interviewing and \$tart \$mart workshops this spring on the campuses of Idaho State University, Northwest Nazarene University, College of Idaho and College of Western Idaho. Each workshop is designed to strengthen the interviewing and salary negotiation skills of participants when they begin their professional lives. The workshops will be conducted at Northwest Nazarene University on February 27 and March 2 and at Idaho State

University on March 7 and 8. Workshops at The College of Idaho and College of Western Idaho will be held in mid to late April, but specific dates have not been confirmed.

AAUW of Idaho has applied for an AAUW Community Action Grant which, if funded, will permit us to conduct these workshops each semester at these schools. The Pocatello AAUW Branch has already purchased a three year license from Wage Project, developers of the \$tart \$mart workshop.

## Public Policy: Lessons Learned on the Luna Referenda

By Anne Pasley-Stuart, public policy vp, AAUW of Idaho



Confused about a referendum?  
Questions about Idaho's education referenda win?

Be prepared to be dazzled by our excellent speakers. They will be able to answer our many questions regarding this important tool.

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AAUW's PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE\* PROUDLY PRESENTS

AT OUR WINTER BOARD MEETING FEBRUARY, 9, 2013,

At 10:30 a.m.

A fabulous Public Policy program

**“LESSONS LEARNED ON THE LUNA REFERENDA”**

SPEAKERS:

Former State Senator Bert Marley and Michael Lanza

**Register now to reserve a seat!**

**If you are attending lobby day, make appointments with your district legislators, today.**

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\*Public Policy Committee: Anne Pasley-Stuart, chair, Kathy Haley, Gayle Wilde, Lee Hipsher, Kathy Scott, Sylvia Chariton with Bonnie Pfaff and Pat Alpine as honorary members.

## Public Policy Report

By Anne Pasley-Stuart, vp public policy, AAUW of Idaho

The session has finally been gaveled to order and it promises to be a very busy year. Some of the topics on the table include: personal/business property taxes, education, guns, healthcare reform and transportation. There is no word regarding abortion legislation, but it is being closely monitored.

We also have major changes in leadership in the house with a new speaker, a new assistant majority leader, and a new caucus chair. In the Senate we have new minority leadership. This should make for some interesting dynamics. Legislators are keeping their cards close to their vests. Almost all of the legislation that will be proposed is kept very quiet. There will be more on this as the session progresses.

**Gayle Wilde and I need your assistance during the session.** If you could spend a few hours a week monitoring a committee we would be thrilled. We are good, but we can't be in three places at one time. We are also planning an exciting winter board meeting program that you will find very interesting. **If you are planning to stay for lobby day, please set up your appointments now! Time is tight at the Capitol.**




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## Winter Board Registration Due Feb.1, 2013

to Bonnie Pfaff, co-president, 6925 McGlochlin St., Boise 83709 or [bonnie.m.pfaff@wellsfargo.com](mailto:bonnie.m.pfaff@wellsfargo.com)

2013 AAUW of IDAHO WINTER BOARD MEETING: FEBRUARY 9-11

Idaho Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Building at 225 West 16th Street, Boise, ID

**Saturday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 am - 3:00 pm**

- 10:30 am - noon: Speakers and Panel Discussion
- Noon-1:00 pm: Lunch at a' Tavola - 1515 W. Grove Street ([atavolaboise.com](http://atavolaboise.com))
- 1 - 3 p.m.: Business meeting

**Sunday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am-Noon**

**Monday, February 11<sup>th</sup>**

- Lobby Day Details TBA at Sunday meeting  
Make appointments now to meet with your Legislators!

**Registration Fee: NONE, BUT PLEASE RSVP!**

I am attending Winter Board - Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Branch \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I plan to go to lunch at a'Tavola on Saturday:  Yes  No (Each pays for own meal/drinks)

I plan to participate in AAUW Lobby Day on Monday, Feb. 11:  Yes  No

An agenda will be sent to registrants prior to the meeting. If you have any questions or need accommodations (a few Boise Branch members have rooms available in their homes), please contact AAUW of Idaho co-presidents: Patricia Alpine: [patriciaalpine@gmail.com](mailto:patriciaalpine@gmail.com) or Bonnie Pfaff: [bonnie.m.pfaff@wellsfargo.com](mailto:bonnie.m.pfaff@wellsfargo.com).

**Send or e-mail response by Feb. 1st**



Idaho  
*Gem State Bulletin*

Advancing equity for  
women and girls  
through advocacy,  
education, philanthropy  
and research



[aauw-id.aauw.net](http://aauw-id.aauw.net)

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Maribeth Alder  
2244 Jacqueline Lane  
Pocatello, ID 83201

