



# DOUGLAS COUNTY Nov/Dec, 2023



## PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Nov 11, 2023: GIRL POWER! 8:30am-12:30pm; Sturm Campus

Dec 20, 2023: Holiday Party at Pino's Italian Restaurant; 11:30am

Jan 17, 2024: Women in Film; Location & Time TBD

Feb 3, 2024: Public Policy Day

Mar 20, 2024: Sex Trafficking Discussion; Location & Time TBD

May, 2024: End of Year Celebration; Location & Time TBD

Friends and family are always welcome at our meetings!!!



## **GIRL POWER !!!**

Our project to empower 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls is happening on November 11, from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. on the ACC Sturm Collaborative Campus in Castle Rock.

AAUW members are needed to help with the many tasks to make this successful. If you've already signed up, you will get a confirmation. If you still want to help, please call Beryl or Suzanne.

Thank you for continuing to support our efforts in encouraging young women to learn about the STEM programs available to them.

*Suzanne & Beryl*

**"We have to teach our girls that they can reach as high as humanly possible." — Beyonce**



## **Our December Meeting and Future Meetings:**

Our annual Christmas party will be held at Pino's restaurants in Castle Pines on December 20 at 11:30. Menu selections and payment options are your choice. We will have a book exchange. Bring a wrapped book to exchange. We will exchange books and tell why we have brought the book to share. In the spirit of the season, please also bring a children's book (unwrapped) to donate to the "Birthday Room" at the Health and Hope Center of Douglas County.

Upcoming Programs: (note I can not make 2024 reservations at the library until Nov. 8, so dates and times are to be determined)

January 17: an afternoon program introducing Women's Contributions. The documentary movie is called **Bombshell**, the story of the many contributions made by Hedy Lamarr. Bring your own beverage and snack.



February: No meeting as we will all be watching Public Policy via zoom on Saturday, February 3, in our jammies. Information and links will be sent from the state.

March: Program Committee member, Betty Rosen, will chair this event. She is working on an outstanding event. Time and location TBD.

April: No Douglas County meeting as we will be supporting the Colorado Springs branch with the State Convention.

May: TBD. Our end of the year event, always fun and casual.

*Diane*

*"Surround yourself with people and things that inspire you. Learn everything you can." — Jameela Jamil*



**PUBLIC POLICY INFORMATION** from Diane Norten, Public Policy Chair

Local elections are on Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to exercise your right to vote.

For a reminder and information about AAUW policies, check the national website. For over 40 years, AAUW has advanced gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy. The Women’s Economic Empowerment initiative gives women the skills they need to thrive and build strong financial futures. Over 190,000 women across the U.S. have participated in training programs including salary-negotiation skills, leadership development and mentorships. Programs include Start Smart, Work Smart, Money Smart and Empowerment. 52% of participants in all salary programs are identified as non-white. 23% of Start Smart participants are STEM majors and 41% of Work Smart participants are mid-level in their careers. To learn more about the important programs we represent, check the national website.

*Diane*

**TREASURER’S REPORT** via Deb Swiecinski, Treasurer

The most recent check from the jewelry sales fundraiser was for \$675. This money was directed to Girl Power. Marcia will collect jewelry thru December. We also have another check from King Soopers for \$162. Keep eating and eating and eating.

*Marcia for Deb*



**JEWELRY/WATCH FUNDRAISER:** Please donate old jewelry and windup watches.

Condition doesn’t matter. Many thanks to all who donated already! Call or email me if you have questions. Donations can be brought to any meeting or I can pick them up. **ENDING IN DECEMBER.**

**All you do is EAT!**

**SAFEWAY/ ALBERTSON FUNDRAISER** uses a reloadable card. If you would like a card, let Marcia know. No cost.

**KING SOOPER’S FUNDRAISER** continues. King Soopers is connected to your Loyalty Card and can be easily registered online and/or connected to your phone number. Your family can also register for our club. Our club number is Club **YN919**. Holler if you get stuck.

Contact is Marcia Miller; [millermarcia@me.com](mailto:millermarcia@me.com)

*marcia*



## **INTEREST GROUPS**

Chair: Dorothy Nugent, [dorothynugent@comcast.net](mailto:dorothynugent@comcast.net)

*If you are interested in starting a new interest group, please speak up! Dorothy will be happy to help you get started.*

**Single's Bridge** - meets 1st Wednesday of every month @ 2:00 p.m. in member's home or restaurant. Contact: Marcia Miller, 303-489-1935, millermarcia@me.com

**Couple's Bridge** - meets 1st Saturday monthly @6:30 p.m. in member's home.  
Contact: Margaret Boone 303-688-3728.

**Morning Book Club** - meets 2nd Tuesday of every month @ 10:00 a.m. at the Castle Rock Library.  
Contact: Susan Berger, susanrae68@gmail.com, 603-930-7190

**Afternoon Book Club** - meets 2nd Wednesday of every month @ 12:30 in member's home.  
Contact: Linda Washburn 719-487-0203, lindacwashburn@gmail.com

**Mexican Train** - meets 3rd Wednesday of every month in a member's home. Contact: Pat Proctor  
720-353-8032, mpatproctor@msn.com

**History and Culture Group** - meets every month at  
different venues. Contact: Stephanie Fong, s\_fong@comcast.net, 303-249-0112,

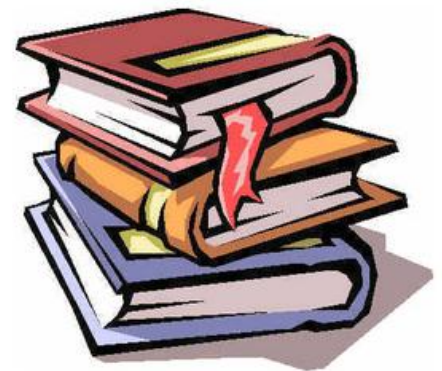
**Book Group Books** - contacts are above.

**Morning Group:** November is **News of the World** by Paulette Jules. *“historical fiction that explores the boundaries of family, responsibility, honor and trust.”*

December-no meeting Happy Holidays

**Afternoon Group:** November is Choice Month! No meeting in December - Happy Holidays

**Editor's Choice:** The **Overnight Guest** by Heather Gudenkauf. “True crime writer Wylie Lark doesn't mind being snowed in at the isolated farmhouse where she's retreated to write her new book. A cozy fire, complete silence. It would be perfect, if not for the fact that decades earlier, at this very house, two people were murdered in cold blood and a girl disappeared without a trace.”

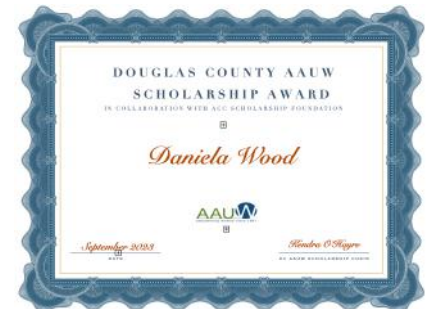


## **If you missed the last two meetings, you missed a lot!**

### **SEPTEMBER, 2023: *Scholarship Meeting at the Sturm Campus/ACC***

On September 20, we awarded our first DC AAUW Scholarship in collaboration with Arapahoe Community College. We met at the Sturm Campus in Castle Rock which is an amazing facility.

Our Scholarship recipient, Daniela Wood (pictured on right) was unable to attend our meeting at the last minute due to an ill child but I shared with those present some information from her application. Daniela has been involved in the medical field for the past 11 years and is currently dually enrolled in the ADN and BSN programs at ACC. As a single parent of an 8 year old son, Daniela is focused on “being a good role model for her child by showing him you should work hard towards the things you love and enjoy doing.” She is not currently working due to a demanding Nursing Lecture schedule and Clinical schedule which frequently require 12 hour shifts. Therefore, the scholarship will help her pay for tuition, books, and some costs for commuting, food, and childcare. She said, “the money will take so much weight off of my shoulders”. A Scholarship Certificate, along with background information on AAUW’s history and mission, and a “goody bag” filled with some *survival* snacks should also add to her “award” on a more personal level.



If you ever wondered how the Sturm Campus came to Castle Rock, you would have appreciated the presentation by Kristi Struther (Navigator for ACC classes and for the Workforce program). Kristi (pictured below) provided our group with great information about the development of the Sturm Campus whose mission to seamlessly serve high school students, 2 year degree seeking students, 4 year degrees in certain areas, and certificate awards and workforce training; the top programs housed at this campus ( 9 programs with top 3 being Technology, Business, and Health); and, plans for future expansion. This facility is already at capacity with all classrooms filled all the time! Funding is being sought for expansion of an additional building just to the east of the current campus.

Travis Logan (pictured below), our ACC Scholarship contact, discussed the ACC Foundation which provides financial support to ACC students through scholarships and emergency funding. Travis provided data which demonstrates the impact of scholarships on students awardees. I was impressed by the following survey results:

#### ***Residency:***

- \*34.9% scholars are Arapahoe county residents
- \*37.6% scholars are Douglas county residents

**Impact of receiving a scholarship:**

- \*84.7% were able to avoid debt thanks to their scholarship
- \*94.7% said that receiving a scholarship encouraged them to take their academic performance more seriously
- \*98.5% said receiving a scholarship has inspired them to give back to their community
- \*99% said it helped their overall confidence



Thank you to our members who were able to attend our September meeting. We learned many interesting and relevant facts about a premier educational facility in Castle Rock which serves our county as a whole! We hope to introduce Daniela at the end of her academic year...perhaps at our final spring annual meeting.

*Kendra O'Hayre*

**"Careers are a jungle gym, not a ladder." — [Sheryl Sandberg](#)**

**"Your mindset can control you, or you can control it. It can reward you, or it can own you. You get to decide. What are you choosing?" — Leila Kashani**

**"Life is about finding yourself, embracing your strengths and weaknesses, and being true to who you are." — Oprah Winfrey**

**"In every day, there are 1,440 minutes. That means we have 1,440 daily opportunities to make a positive impact." ~ Les Brown**

**"For one thing we know beyond all doubt: Nothing has ever been achieved by the person who says, 'It can't be done.'" — Eleanor Roosevelt**

**October Meeting w/ Dr. Mom (Marianne Neifert, MD, MTS) at Phillips Library. Then we filled the bags for Girl Power under Beryl's direction.**

*"Half of what we teach new moms is the worst; we just don't know which half." Dr. Mom*



***Advancing equity for women and girls.***

## **Our Leadership:**

**\*Acting Administrator: Marsha Johnson**

**VPs of Programs: Suzanne Kroepsch, Anne Herrington,  
Betty Rossen**

**VP of Membership: Linda Gaylo**

**Public Policy: Diane Norten**

**Treasurer: Deb Swiecinski**

**Secretary: Pat Smith**

**Newsletter: Marcia Miller**

**Website: Pat Smith**

**Directory and Emails: Pat Proctor**

**Scholarships: Kendra O'Hayre**

**Interest Groups: Dorothy Nugent**

**Historian: Beryl Jacobson**

**Stem Program: Beryl Jacobso & Suzanne Kroepsch**

**\*OPEN POSITION. Please volunteer!!!**

*Contact Marsha Johnson with questions or to help. It takes all of us!!*



“As society sees what women can do, as women see what women can do, there will be more women out there doing things, and we’ll all be better off for it.” — Sandra Day O’Connor, “Women in Power”



*Your fun page...*

## **Family Game for the Holidays**

**Directions: Form teams. Paper and pencil per team needed. Read one of the sentences to the whole group. First team with 5 answers wins a point. Repeat with another sentence. Or time it if you like; team with most answers in time allotted wins a point. Use any or all sentences. (Or just use for discussion.)**

Name an ingredient in a sugar cookie.

If Santa caught the flu, who would deliver the presents?

Name something you put in or on hot chocolate.

Name a sport that requires snow.

Name an animal you could see at the North Pole.

Name an item you could use to wrap a Christmas present.

Name a tradition that happens leading up to Christmas.

Name a Christmas cookie cutout shape.

Name something a mom of young kids is wishing for.

Name a popular drink served at Christmas.

Name movies that are shown at Christmas time.

Name the jobs the elves have.

Name the ingredients in a fruitcake.

Name all the Christmas songs you can think of.

Name smells that make you think of Christmas.

Name something you need to dress up like Santa.

Name the best Christmas desserts.

Name the best Christmas presents.

Name a Christmas decoration.

Name the things you can hang on a Christmas tree.

If you can't be with family, where would you like to spend the holidays?





**See you next year. Stay warm and healthy! marcia, editor**

**The end.**