

MANHATTAN BRANCH NEWSLETTER

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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

December Branch Program Really POPPED!



The talented **Manhattan High School (MHS) POPS Choir**, under the direction of Chad Pape, performed at the December 9th branch meeting held at the Manhattan Arts Center. The students, dressed in festive holiday attire, sang and danced to classical rock tunes with energetic moves and captivated the audience with their outstanding a cappella singing.

The POPS Choir is one of the six talented but demanding choir groups at MHS that provide students with an exceptional music experience. It is an auditioned ensemble that performs in the community throughout the course of the school year. Participation requires a high level of student commitment. We were fortunate to have these outstanding students provide the branch's holiday program.

The performance was followed with a dessert reception with the performers and an opportunity to visit the Wrap It Up! holiday art exhibit and sale of items made by more than 80 regional artists.



The Manhattan Arts Center



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Special points of interest:

- Serendipity will meet on **January 28, 2014** at 11:30 am in the Manhattan Room at Meadowlark Hills. More details on Page 3.
- Volunteer to serve at the AAUW booth at the Community Fair on Saturday, February 1. Contact Patricia Floros for more information.
- Grocery Coupons and Debit Cards can be purchased from Marilyn Bunyan (Dillon's) and Claudia Jones (Ray's Apple Market).

Branch Meeting — Saturday, January 11, 2014

Women's Income Contribution: The Correlation with Money Arguments and Relationship Satisfaction



Speaker: **Dr. Sonya Britt, Assistant Professor and Program Director of Personal Financial Planning Kansas State University**

Location: K-State Student Union, Cottonwood Room
 Brunch - 9:30 a.m. Program - 10:15 a.m.
 Cost for brunch: \$16. Make checks payable to AAUW.

Parking is available in the Parking Garage for \$1.50 per hour or at no charge in lots below McCain Auditorium, north of Durland Hall, and west of Memorial Stadium.

Make reservations by email to manhattanksaauw@gmail.com (preferred) or call Connie Noble at (785) 539-5522. Deadline for reservations is Tuesday, January 7th at noon.

Meet Loriel Cross, Donor of One of Our Scholarships

Loriel Cross funded one of our KSU Scholarships for the 2013-2014 academic year. She knew she wanted to help a K-State student with college expenses, preferably female, but was not sure how she wanted to do it. She was referred to our Manhattan Branch by the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation and by a fellow docent at the Beach Museum, Barbara Gatewood. Loriel decided on our branch because AAUW had a good reputation at the national level and our branch already had a local scholarship program in place.

Loriel, or Lorrie, grew up in Denver and received her bachelor's degree from the University of Denver. While in school she worked at the Colorado State Hospital. She had a desire to serve others, especially people that were hurting. She decided to explore coming to Kansas for her Master's degree since the mental health field had a good reputation in Kansas and her grandparents lived in Osborne. She came to visit and decided to

attend graduate school at the University of Kansas. It was one of only a few schools that had an advanced degree program in social work at that time. Lorrie received her Master's degree and went to work at the Topeka State Hospital from 1966 to 1973. She moved to Manhattan after being recruited by Pawnee Mental Health Services where she served as a social/psycho-therapist from 1973 until she retired in 2004.

Upon retirement, Lorrie turned her attention to "the arts" by becoming a docent at the Beach Museum and taking oil painting classes at Varney's Book Store. Later she studied under Judy Love and started working with pastels. The classes she took had art shows at Varney's and Radina's. Her art has progressed from landscapes to abstract. Her latest compositions evolved from photos of her cat, Thea. Lorrie took photos and concentrated on the calico fur patterns.

Lorrie "attends live operas" in New York via high definition television at a

Topeka movie theater. Her cat, Thea, is named after the main character in the book, Song of the Lark by Willa Cather.

Lorrie belongs to two book clubs, one meets for a book discussion over dinner and the other group meets monthly at the Unitarian Fellowship.

Lorrie received scholarships when she was working on her master's degree and is "paying it forward" by setting money aside at the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation to help other women get their college degree.

The Manhattan Branch of AAUW is very grateful to Lorrie that she chose to fund one of our KSU Scholarships this past year!



Interest Group Spotlight on *GREAT DECISIONS*



Are you interested in discussing thought-provoking public policy issues and foreign affairs in a friendly and engaging atmosphere? If so, then AAUW Manhattan branch's Great Decisions interest group may provide a perfect platform for you to explore current topics of concern to the public and U.S. policymakers today.

This interest group meets on the second Thursday of the month at 10:00 a.m. at the Meadowlark Hills Retirement Center. Mavis Fletcher, one of the groups founding members in 2002, coordinates the activities of the current branch participants (and some spouses). She is highly regarded as an intelligent, dedicated, and skillful leader.

This discussion group utilizes the Great Decisions Program, published by the Foreign Policy Associations (FPA), as a guide in studying national and international issues facing the U.S. today. Great Decisions is America's largest discussion program on world affairs with discussion groups located throughout the country (http://www.fpa.org/great_decisions/). FPA publishes *Great Decisions* briefing books annually that contain eight articles written by experts on current topics with questions that serve as a catalyst for discussion. The group selects one article each month to read and discuss. Some of the 2013 topics were threat assessment, humanitarian intervention, NATO, Egypt, and China's engagement in Africa. Participants have an opportunity to make their views known on the topics by submitting opinion ballots. A ballot report is sent annually to the White House, departments of State and Defense, members of Congress, the media, and concerned citizens.

Mavis stated "our AAUW branch members love to talk about interesting topics and ideas! And quite often they come to the discussion group with one opinion on

a topic, but will change their opinion after hearing views of fellow members. The format of the meetings hasn't changed much," according to Mavis; "we basically follow the well-written format and take turns leading the discussion on suggested questions, thus giving all members an opportunity to participate."

Sometimes the group will discuss critical public policy issues that have come to the forefront or invite outside speakers. For example, Dr. Medhat Morcos, a distinguished K-State professor in engineering, gave such a dynamic presentation on Egypt that it served as the cornerstone for a larger public lecture. "We followed Egypt through its crisis," Helen Whiteman stated, "and talked about intervention in Iran and Syria."

The Great Decision 2014 topics and meeting dates will include: defense technology (January 9), Israel and the U.S. (February 13), Turkey's challenges (March 13), terrorism in Africa (April 10), energy independence (May 8), food and climate (June 12), and China's foreign policy (July 10).

Mavis said "we would like to have 4 to 5 new members join Great Decisions." This interest group is a wonderful opportunity to participate in engaging conversation, connect with a diverse group, interact with other AAUW members, and stay current on world affairs.

Please visit one of the meetings to investigate the many benefits of this engaging interest group . . . it could be a *great decision!*



Pictured L to R in front row: Florence Schwab, Judy Cattell, Mavis Fletcher, and Elsie Hall. Back row: Dick Cattell, Carol Fager, Joan Strickler, and Helen Whiteman. Member not present: Lena Ferguson.

Serendipity will meet on [January 28, 2014](#) at 11:30 am in the Manhattan Room at Meadowlark Hills. Elsie Hall is the hostess. RSVP to her by Friday, [January 24](#), at 785-537-1964 (You can leave a message). The Kansas Day program will be presented by Polly Ferrell.

New Wage Gap Numbers Aren't So New



On September 17, 2013, the U.S. Census Bureau released the 2012 gender wage gap numbers. And guess what? The wage gap still stands at 23 cents.

That means a woman working full time, year-round still typically

takes home 77 cents for every dollar a man takes home. The gap is even worse for women of color. This isn't the first year the wage gap has refused to budge.

Since 2002, the gap has stubbornly hovered right around 23 cents. Sometimes, it feels like the wage gap will never close. Some don't care if these numbers play out like a broken record year after year. They would rather blame the difference in men's and women's pay on individual choices. If only that were true.

When you account for all measurable decisions that might influence a person's paycheck — college, major, occupation, industry, work hours, you name it — the wage gap is still there. We should know. Last year, we did a study that looked at the earnings of women and men just one year out of college, a time when few women or men are making choices about having children, taking care of elderly parents, or working fewer hours. Taking into account all the factors that have been shown to affect pay, the report found that women are paid an unexplained 6.6 percent less than men doing the exact same work.

If you do the math, you'll find that 6.6 percent of an average man's earnings one year out of college comes to just over \$2,800. That amount of money could buy you:

- ⇒ Nearly a year's worth of groceries
- ⇒ More than 750 gallons of gas
- ⇒ 1,400 tall Starbucks coffees

AAUW Funding Deadlines

Please share the following information about the following AAUW 2014 Fellowships and Grants with women scholars and potential applicants. AAUW provides nearly \$4 million in funding annually. Applications are available at <http://aauw.org/what-we-do/educational-funding-and-awards/>.

AAUW Selected Professions Fellowships – provide funding (\$5,000-\$18,000) for women to pursue a full-time course of study in a master's or professional degree program in which women's participation traditionally has been low, such as architecture, computer science, engineering, mathematics, and statistics. Deadline: **January 10, 2014.**

AAUW Community Action Grants - provide seed money (\$2,000-\$10,000) to women, AAUW branches/state organization, and nonprofits (including universities) for innovative programs or non-degree research projects that promote education and equity for women and girls, especially projects focused on K-12 and community college students' achievements in STEM fields and to collaborative projects between schools and communities. Deadline: **January 15, 2014.**

AAUW Membership

Half-Year Dues are an excellent way to recruit new members at the half-off rate that is valid from January 1 through March 15 for the current 2013-14 fiscal year. And if you use the **Shape the Future campaign** in which potential members participate in an event that's open to the public, the deal doubles. Hence, the total cost for national (\$12.25), state (\$3.00) and branch dues (\$6.50) is only **\$21.75.**

FREE Membership for Winter Graduates is a great way to honor a winter graduate this season using the **Give a Grad a Gift** campaign.

FREE Memberships for K-State Undergraduates is a "gift" throughout the year because K-State is an official college/university (C/U) partner. Apply online at: www.aauw.org.

Contact **Kathy Borck, Membership VP**, ksukatsmeow@aol.com, if you would like a membership brochure and letter sent to a perspective member. Send completed membership applications and dues to **Claudia Jones, Treasurer**, at 1727 Hollow Tree Lane, Manhattan, KS 66502

Member Profile — Writer Barbara Booth Wins More Awards



Barbara Booth, a native of Clay Center, KS, won four awards in writing in the 2013 Kansas Authors Club Literary Contest. Three of them were in poetry. Booth took first place in the

Whimsy Poetry Contest among 51 entries for entry titled “True Words”, second place for “Reservation”, second place for “Our Town” and first place for her feature story “Kansas Coffee”.

When asked how her poetry has changed over the years, Booth said “it’s grown” and some of it is “more of the same.”

Booth has a degree in Journalism from the Kansas State University. She has published two books: “A centennial history of Clay Center” and “Diamond of the Flint Hills”. She also writes feature articles and poetry. Booth has been a member of the Kansas Authors Club since 1979.

Booth received a Service Award from the club in 1988. she served as District 4 President in 1986 and State President in

1990-91. In 2005 she served as the Club’s Parliamentarian and on the committee that selected the winner of the J. Donald Coffin Memorial Book Award.

Most of Booth’s awards from the club have been in poetry. Other awards booth received in the Kansas Authors’ Club literary contest include:

- 2002— third place, feature story
- 2004—honorable mentions for a Japanese form poem titled “Cicada Trills” and in prose-theme for “Write in Kansas.”
- 2006—first place, free verse poetry, “The Palette Knife.”
- 2008—honorable mentions for a Japanese form poem titled “Pictures in child scrawl”
- 2009— second in whimsy poems, for “Mother Burned the Toast.”
- 2011—honorable mentions for a Japanese form poem titled “House Plants” and a poem titled “Alone” for Poet’s Choice.

The Kansas Authors Club welcomes anyone with an interest in writing. Read more at www.kansasauthors.org.

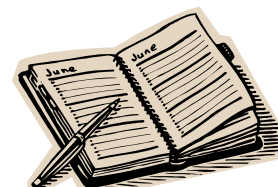
Congratulations, Barbara! Keep it up! AAUW wishes you the very best!

Source: *The Clay Center Dispatch*. October 10, 2013

JANUARY AAUW CALENDAR

National Blood Donor Month

Jan. 1	Happy New Year!!!	Kwanzaa ends	
6	Board Meeting	Noon	Vista Drive-In, 1911 Tuttle Creek Blvd.
7	Sign-up Deadline	Noon	Jan. 11 branch meeting reservation
8	Creative Cookery	11:30 a.m.	For this month’s location, contact Carol Dixon at 785-539-7257
9	Great Decisions	10:00 a.m.	Meadowlark Hills Retirement Center
10	Book Talk	10:00 a.m.	Manhattan Public Library
10	Deadline to submit Selected Professions Fellowship applications		
11	Branch Meeting	9:30 a.m.	K-State Student Union Cottonwood Room
15	Deadline to submit newsletter articles		
15	Deadline to submit Community Action Grant applications		
20	Martin L. King, Jr. Day		Government offices closed.
28	Serendipity	11:30 a.m.	Meadowlark Hills, Manhattan Room



These are the regularly scheduled meetings. Please contact the chair listed in the yearbook/website for the most up-to-date information on Interest Groups.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY WOMEN

Nancy Bolsen
1731 Kings Road
Manhattan, KS 66503

Empowering Women Since 1881



Email: manhattanksaauw@gmail.com

The American Association of University Women, founded in 1881, is a nationwide community with more than 100,000 members and donors, 1,000 local branches, and 500 college and university (C/U) partners. Our mission is to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. In the 2012-13 academic year, for example, AAUW has committed more than \$4.3 million in fellowships and grants to outstanding women, AAUW branches, and community nonprofit organizations. It continues to have a dynamic influence on policymakers, educators, employers, and communities to break through barriers and enhance opportunities for women.

We're on the Web

<http://manhattan-ks.aauw.net/>

www.aauw.org