

MANHATTAN BRANCH NEWSLETTER

March 2016 — Volume 96, Number 7

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

February Meeting Focuses on Women in STEM



Cindy Wallace-Lage

The February Manhattan branch AAUW program featured Cindy Wallace-Lage, President of Global Water Business for the global engineering firm, Black and Veatch. Ms. Wallace-Lage joined Black and Veatch 1987; she joined the board of directors in 2012.

Wallace-Lage credits her early interest in environmental engineering to growing up with a grandfather who was a science

teacher. She began her college education at K-State in an environmental technology program. Though she was not aware of the profession of civil engineering as a college freshman, she serendipitously learned about civil engineering and graduated in that field.

Wallace-Lage's career has been built around her understanding that water is foundational. She took a job right out of school with Black and Veatch in Phoenix, Arizona, working on groundwater recharge through cleansed wastewater. She later decided to go back for graduate school to focus on water reuse. Black and Veatch was supportive of her move back to Kansas and her continuing education. Her career focus is providing treatment systems, evaluating new concepts, and applying them around the globe. Her work strives to answer the question, "How do we make water processes less energy

and chemical dependent?"

Wallace-Lage states, "We are depleting groundwater and many communities can't sustain the way we have been operating." Presently, Black and Veatch is called to act on these issues more in Australia than the United States. An emergency water scarcity situation in Brisbane led Wallace-Lage to work on a gray water reuse project there. The sociological side of such projects is very significant, as communities can be slow to accept reuse of gray water. Utilities need to start planning early, ahead of a crisis. Los Angeles, California is one of very few communities that has approached gray water reuse early, with much input and the concept has gained public acceptance.

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Empowering Women to Lead Worldwide
Overcoming Political and Social Struggles

Tuesday, March 8, 4-5 p.m.
Forum Hall, K-State Student Union
Reception with refreshments, 5:30 p.m.

Lecture by human rights activist
Noorjahan Akbar

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY AAUW
Learn more at k-state.edu/leadership or manhattan-ks.aauw.net

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Branch Meeting — March 8, 2016

Empowering Women to Lead Worldwide



Speaker: **Noorjahan Akbar**
Co-Founder of Young Women for Change

Location: Holiday Inn, 17th and Anderson
 Dinner - 6:00 p. m.
 Cost for dinner: \$12. Make checks payable to AAUW.

Make reservations by email to manhattanksaauw@gmail.com (preferred) or call Connie Noble at (785) 539-5522. Deadline for reservations is Tuesday, March 1 at noon. If you need or can provide transportation, contact Dede Brokesh at (785) 410-4335.

About our March Speaker: Noorjahan Akbar

4:00 P. M. Forum Hall KSU Union with featured speaker, Noorjahan Akbar
 6:00 P. M. Branch Dinner Meeting at the HOLIDAY INN, 17th and Anderson with our featured speaker

Noorjahan (Nore-ja-'han) is an outspoken women and human right's advocate from Afghanistan. She has worked with several Afghan and global organizations focusing on women's social and economic empowerment and ending gender-based violence. She currently resides in Washington D.C. and has a Master's in Journalism and Public Affairs from American University. Since September 2015 she has worked for *Women for Women International* as a writer, collaborator, press manager, and video producer. She also works for *The Center for Diversity and Inclusion* at American University where she created *Voices of AU*, an online platform that highlights the diversity of American University. She has been published in the New York Times, Al Jazeera, and the UN Dispatch.

Noorjahan was recognized in 2012 by AAUW as a Woman of Distinction. Among her many and varied accomplishments in her young life is co-founding Young Women for Change in Kabul, Afghanistan, teaching creative writing to children in Afghanistan, as a way to healing, researching women's music in Takhar and Badakhshan Afghanistan, and serving as a media consultant for Certe Media Firm in Kabul.

The Newsweek Network and the Daily Beast named her one of the **150 Fearless Women Who Shake the World in 2012**. She has written numerous articles and blogs, from 2011-2015. Some of her speeches can be found on YouTube or our branch website. One of them can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LtpkK7Jtp3U>

Like Art? Help a KS AAUW Member by Voting!

Ramona Newsom, Salina Branch, is excited, and so are we! Her photo has made the **2016 AAUW Art Contest**. Now *she needs your help* to get it to be one of the top 10 entries and one of six notecards. Voting is open until February 29. Go to https://svc.aauw.org/contests/NoteCardEntries_wp.cfm and vote for your TOP 10 entries. Ramona's entry is called "Beyond the Gate." Have fun viewing these great talents of AAUW members across the globe. - **Lynnette Redington, KS AAUW Bulletin Editor**



Beyond the Gate



AAUW at Kansas State University First Official Meeting



Front left: Cecilia Caceres, Anna Rackley, Tara Terwilliger, Siba Khojah, and Charissa Powell.

Back left: Rebecca Youngblood, Taylor Stebbins, Reily Goyne, Corinne Stratton, Carly Wright, Anna Cook, and Glenda Leung.

The first meeting of the new student organization **AAUW at Kansas State University (AAUW at K-State)** was held on **February 16, 2016** at 4:00 p.m. in the Leadership Studies Bldg., room 114. President Tara Terwilliger began with a PowerPoint presentation and self-introductions. Vice President Taylor Stebbins discussed reasons for joining AAUW: empowerment by gaining a competitive edge, ability to connect to support network, and access to powerful tools for action. AAUW's mission of empowering all women and girls provides opportunities for making a difference and overcoming challenges to success. Tara reviewed Manhattan branch officers, co-advisors, AAUW partnership, and free memberships to K-State undergraduates. AAUW at K-State is now connected through social media (Facebook and Twitter), thanks to Advocacy Chair, Siba Khojah, and is online at the branch website (<https://manhattan-ks.aauw.net/aauw-at-kansas-state-university/>). The meeting minutes will be posted on Orgsync.

Monday, March 7, 4-5 p.m.
International Student Center
Hosted by K-State International Students, International Students and Scholar Services and AAUW.

Conversation with human rights activist
Noorjahan Akbar

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY AAUW

[Click here to learn more](#)

Tara highlighted activities during **Noorjahan Akbar's** campus visit, March 7-9 to mark International Women's Day. This is an important opening event for our AAUW student organization. Students were encouraged to attend: March 7, 4 p.m., **Welcoming Reception**, International Student Center; March 8, 11:30 a.m., **AAUW Student Luncheon**, 201 Leadership Studies; 4 p.m., **Empowering Women to Lead Worldwide**, Forum Hall; 6 p.m., **Branch Dinner**, Holiday Inn. Class presentations are scheduled for: March 8, 9:30 (Leadership Studies), 1:05 p.m. (Women's Studies), and March 9, 9:30 a.m. (Journalism).

The **Young Voter Project**, sponsored by the League of Women Voters this fall, was reviewed by Treasurer Reily Goyne. The goal is to increase the number of active, informed young voters for the 2016 election. Consider attending the **National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL), June 2-4** at the University of Maryland. Leadership workshops, outstanding speakers, and networking are some of the highlights of this premier conference. The State Board is providing one **\$1,700 grant** to attend with a

March 15 application deadline (<http://aauw-ks.aauw.net/scholarships/>)

Tara proposed attending the **AAUW State Annual Meeting, Saturday, April 9**, Heston (\$10 reg.). The State will pay for gas for one carload. It is an opportunity to interact with other student organizations. Taylor reviewed plans for AAUW tabling in the Student Union during **K-State's Open House**, April 16, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Assistance is needed in developing a creative display. Please sign up for a time slot to work. Contact Tara if you are interested in serving as Membership Chair or Social Media/Public Chair. The officers meet on Sundays at Radina's. The next meeting is March 1 (4 or 8 p.m.).

New Member Profile - Indira Mohanty



Indira Mohanty grew up in India and came to the United States in 1992 to join her husband who was pursuing his PhD at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. They then moved to Berkeley, California where he completed a Postdoc, then on to Colorado, Virginia, and New Jersey. In 2001 they arrived in Manhattan and have been here ever since.

Indira's husband is on the faculty in Electrical and Computer Engineering. They have one son, Arnav, who is in his last year of high school and plans to pursue an undergraduate degree in Electrical Engineering, most likely at the University of Michigan this fall.

While still in India Indira finished her undergraduate and Master's degrees in Physics and then another Master's in Computer Science from the University of Colorado in Colorado Springs. She worked for a time in Manhattan at Civics Plus before her employment at K-State in 2008 where she remains a Program Assistant at Kansas State University Research Foundation.

In her spare time Indira loves to read and loves traveling, especially to other countries. She would someday like to do even more traveling and also says, "I would love to finish most of the books that I've collected by one of my favorite authors, James Michener.

Continued from page 1: February Meeting

As to whether Wallace-Lage faced discrimination or bias as a female engineer, Wallace-Lage said at times she did, absolutely. She would put on a smile and showcase her skill as an engineer. Her personal philosophy in the workplace is that being genderless is not the goal—it's about being equal. It's great to be a woman—it places no limitation on what you do. She advises that a person should approach discrimination head on but not in an adversarial way.

Cindy Wallace-Lage imparted some true words of wisdom, saying: "Always believe in yourself. Be your best fan club. Do everything with integrity and respect. People watch you constantly. It doesn't matter what point you are at in your career, act with honor and integrity."

How can one use adversity to influence people positively and win them over? Wallace-Lage's career as an engineering process specialist provides many examples. She has been fortunate to travel and has had many fascinating experiences working abroad. Reflecting on some of the more difficult cultures she has worked in (in terms of being an equal player in decision making) Wallace-Lage brings up internalized misogyny and fear of change: Women's view of what they "have to be" in some cultures or sub-cultures can be as big a challenge as men's view of women. Working in any culture, Wallace-Lage places high importance on the education and input process—helping the community visualize the value and benefit that proposed changes may bring.

In recent years, Wallace-Lage has become involved in helping mentor future leaders of water use. She has become involved in the Girl Scouts STEM initiatives and has become part of Black and Veatch's mentoring group for women professionals. In Wallace-Lage's family (including herself, three children, and her husband) all are engineers or engineering students! With such an inspiring leader in the family, we can certainly see why. AAUW Manhattan branch is grateful for Cindy Wallace-Lage's wonderful talk.

Kansas Caucuses 2016

Make sure your voice is heard! Join your community members in helping select your presidential candidate.

Republican Caucus Voting is from 10am-2pm. Location: Riley County-Manhattan High School 901 Poyntz Manhattan, KS 66502 For other Republican Caucus locations go to: <http://www.ksgop.org/#!caucus-locations/vopns>

Democratic Caucus Voting is from 1pm-3pm Location: Riley County: Anthony Middle School, 2501 Browning Ave, Manhattan, KS 66502 For other Democratic Caucus locations go to: <http://www.kansasdems.org/caucus-2016/where-to-caucus/>



In Memoriam Betty “Mavis” Fletcher



We are deeply saddened by the loss of an outstanding branch member, Betty Mavis Loeffler Fletcher, 90, who passed away on February 7, 2016 after a brief illness. She was born on a sheep ranch near Stockton, KS on October 28, 1925 and attended a one-room country school. After graduating from Stockton High School, she attended the University of Kansas where she majored in German and linguistics and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. During graduate study at Ohio State University, she met and married James Austin Fletcher on December 18, 1948. They both were recruited by the Department of Defense and moved to Washington D.C. where they worked for almost 30 years for the National Security Agency.

After retirement she received an associate degree in computer science and worked as an applications programmer for the University of Maryland. When James retired, they moved to Beaufort, SC, where they lived until his death in 2000, after 52 year of marriage. Mavis then moved to Manhattan to be near her sisters, Mildred Loeffler and Lois Fink. She was an active in many organizations, including AAUW and the board of the Manhattan Library Association. Books and bridge, and a love of gardening and the outdoors were defining features of her life.

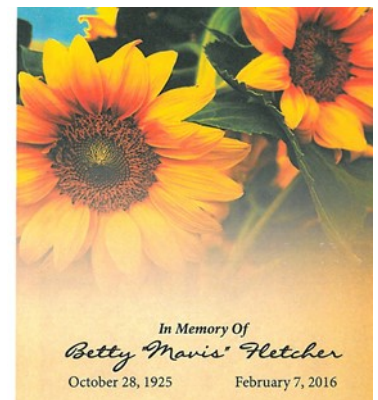
Joan Stickler provided some special thoughts on her memories of Mavis and contributions to AAUW. “Mavis joined the Manhattan Branch in 2001 when I was in my first term as president. In meeting her it became obvious that this woman was someone special - smart, enthusiastic, and an all - around mover and shaker. She offered ideas and suggestions - good ones - and soon became respected and admired by all of us. She urged us to get more involved in state and national issues and provided well-researched reports and good analyses.

She joined our book interest group and took great delight in telling us of mysteries with complicated plots. She was good at puzzling things out and must have been great at her job in at the national security agency. But she was kind enough never to reveal the endings for those of us wanting to read the book! The most challenging interest group we have is because of Mavis. Great Decisions participates in the Foreign Policy Association’s public education program, informing the public on issues affecting our world internationally. Her background in intelligence equipped her well in guiding our discussions (And no, she never once violated her oath to never divulge national intelligence secrets even after all those years.)

She was generous in giving her support, not only to AAUW, but also to public libraries, animal protective services, and organizations such as the Nature Conservancy. She enjoyed participating in Kansas Dialogue, an informal group of people from many backgrounds, who discuss issues and challenges affecting Kansas.

Mavis was a mentor to many of us and I feel very fortunate that she became a much loved friend to me. At Mavis’ request, memorials may be made to the T. Russell Reitz Animal Shelter, 605 Levee Drive, Manhattan, KS 66502.

A \$25 donation will be made by the Branch to the Kansas Sunflower Garden in Mavis’ name.



- Joan Strickler

In Recognition of Board Meeting Memories

Photos Plaque Presented to Vista's Karen and Brad Streeter

Since its founding on a warm June Day in 1964, Vista Drive In has not been "just another hamburger place." Vista has always had a drive-up window, quarter pound hamburgers, tossed green salads, and . . . **a friendly atmosphere for AAUW board meetings!**



Vista Drive In owners
Karen and Brad Streeter



Seated: Mary Stamey, Karen and Brad Streeter, Karen Tinkler, and Barbara Gatewood
Standing: Claudia Jones, Patricia Floros, Nancy Bolsen, Jean Lee, Marilyn Bunyan, Jan Freeby, Adena Weiser, Joan Strickler, and Janet Skochdopole

Our branch has been meeting on and off at Vista on Tuttle Creek Blvd. for over 50 years. At the February 1, 2016 board meeting, the branch presented the owners, Karen and Brad Streeter, with a photo plaque in recognition of our meeting history and to showcase AAUW along with the plaques of other organizations that convene in Vista's meeting room. President Karen Tinkler proposed the idea for the plaque. The plaque contained three special photos – the branch holiday meeting in December, a fall board meeting, and a 60s picture of founders, Charles and Martha Streeter. Martha was a long-time member of AAUW. Vista still serves the delicious chili "made the way Charles and Martha made it on their honeymoon in 1941" (vistadrivein.com). The scrumptious brownies are made from "scratch" with the same recipe Martha used in her Home Economics classes in Wamego High School! Daughter-in-law Karen recounted her memories as one of Martha's students. To experience the "ambience" of Vista Drive In and AAUW collegiality, join us for the next board meeting on March 1. We gather for lunch at 11:30 a.m., and the board meetings start at noon.

President's Notes

It's a busy time of year. There are so many upcoming events happening simultaneously. How does one choose what to do? I want to thank Patricia Floros and all of the members who came out to Town Center Mall to help with the Community Fair. We visited with the public about AAUW and informed them about our Branch activities. We handed out flyers for our March 8th event, encouraging them to come and hear Noorjahan Akbar. Barbara Gatewood and Mary Stamey have been busy making final plans for her arrival on March 7th. If you would like to help with this event, please contact Barbara, Mary, or myself. I want to thank Jean Lee for her presentation last month. She and Maurine Pruitt have been busy getting new voters registered. I also want to thank Claudia Jones for inviting and presenting our scholarship recipients to our February meeting. I hope you were able to meet these young women.

Because of our International Women's Day Event and all the activities we have planned, I find it necessary to report to the members via our newsletter about who our candidates are for the positions that need to be filled this year. The nominating committee has chosen Adena Weiser for the office of secretary; Connie Noble, Tresa Landis, with Marilyn Bunyan's assistance, for Program Vice President(s); Marilyn Bunyan will also serve as director at large; and the other director at large will be Maurine Pruitt. Please thank these individuals for agreeing to take these board positions. We still need someone to work with me to learn about the office of president and serve as the new president for 2017-2019. Additionally, as our branch fills the yearbook with upcoming programs, if you have suggestions for an enjoyable or interesting program, please email me, and I will pass your suggestions on to our programs team. We'd like to have our program schedule filled prior to our first meeting in September. This is your organization; let's work together to make it all that you want it to be. Thank you, **Karen Tinkler, co-president**



Noorjahan Akbar

Monday, March 7, 2016

- 1:44 p.m. Arrive in Manhattan; escorted to Bluemont Hotel by Barbara Gatewood and Tara Terwilliger
- 2:30 p.m. Tour of K-State with guide and Adena Weiser
- 3:00 p.m. Interviews in 201 Leadership Studies Bldg. with local media, introductions by Glenda Leung
- 4:00 p.m.* Welcoming reception hosted by international students at International Student Center
- 6:00 p.m. Dinner with Planning Committee and students at Gatewood's

Tuesday, March 8, 2016

- 8:00 a.m.* Breakfast with AAUW Branch board, Bluemont Hotel
- 9:30 a.m. Leadership Studies class discussion on Leadership Philosophy, Approach and Use of Social Media and Mass Communication as Part of Leadership, coordinated by Trisha Gott
- 11:30 a.m. Student luncheon hosted by AAUW at K-State, 201 Leadership Studies Bldg. RSVP by March 3 to President Tara Terwilliger, tara102@k-state.edu
- 1:05 p.m. Women's Studies class presentation on Afghan Women Take a Stand for Freedom, Education, & Social Reform, WOMST 410A, 333 Waters Hall. Contact: Torry Dickinson, dickins@k-state.edu
- 4:00 p.m.* **Empowering Women to Lead Worldwide: Overcoming Political and Social Struggles**, Forum Hall, Student Union. Welcome by First Lady Noel Schulz and introductions by Mary Stamey
- 5:00 p.m.* Reception with light refreshments and AAUW membership table
- 6:00 p.m.* **Branch Dinner**, Holiday Inn at the Campus, Landon Room. Welcome by Mayor McCulloch and introductions by Mary Stamey. Talk on Afghan dress with display. Cost \$12. RSVP by March 3 at manhattanksaauw@gmail or call 785-410-9710

Wednesday, March 9, 2016

- 8:00 a.m. Breakfast with city leaders at Manhattan Country Club
- 9:30 a.m. Journalism and Mass Communication class presentation on Voices for Social Reform through Mass Communications and Social Media, MC 382, 208 Fairchild Hall. Contact: Joye Gordon, gordon@ksu.edu
- 10:45 a.m. Radio interview with Richard Baker, News Director, Dole Hall
- 11:30 a.m. Provost's Luncheon - KSU women leaders, 201 Anderson Hall. Coordinator, Mary Tolar, Director of Leadership Studies
- 12:45 p.m. Escorted to Manhattan Airport by Mary Stamey
- 2:15 p.m. Depart for Washington, D.C.

***Branch members and friends are invited to attend. Please join us!**



Tuesday, March 8, 4-5 p.m.
Forum Hall, K-State Student Union

Noorjahan Akbar

- Co-founder of Free Women Writers in Afghanistan
- AAUW Women of Distinction Award, 2012
- Forbes' Top 100 Most Powerful Women in the World
- Newsweek Network's One of the 150 Fearless Women Who Shake the World, 2012
- M.A., Journalism and public affairs, American University

Co-sponsored by American Association of University Women, Leadership Studies, Women's Studies, Women of K-State, K-State First, and International Student and Scholar Services



Learn more: manhattan-ksaauw.net



Visit the Staley School of Leadership Studies website:
<https://www.k-state.edu/leadership/>

AAUW: Making a Difference for Kansas Women

AAUW KANSAS ANNUAL MEETING - COME JOIN US IN HESSTON!

You are invited to attend and join Kansas AAUW Branches share and grow!

Saturday, April 9, 2016 Time: 8:30 AM-3:00PM

At Dyck Arboretum – A beautiful setting for great AAUW conversations!

Registration \$35 at <http://aauw-ks.aauw.net/> and in your Kansas Bulletin

Speakers: Dr. Mirta Martin, President Fort Hays State University, Traci Jensen, AAUW Board of Directors and Student Presentation plus time to talk with other branches. Great food from local vendors!

Kansas AAUW State Board will pay for gas for one carload.

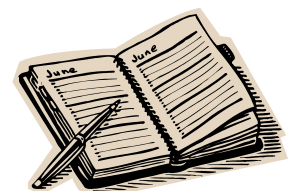
Come Join in the Excitement!

AAUW Ten State Midwest Biennial Regional Conference at Great Wolf Lodge at Legends in Kansas City, Kansas. Our AAUW hosts promise great speakers, programs, movies and activities. Registration is \$45. The conference registration form is on the AAUW State of Kansas website at <http://aauw-ks.aauw.net/> More updates in next newsletter.

Nancy Bolsen – AAUW State Board Liaison

MARCH BRANCH CALENDAR

Women’s History Month			
Mar. 1	Board Meeting	Noon	Vista Drive-In, 1911 Tuttle Creek Blvd.
3	Sign-up Deadline		Mar. 8 branch meeting reservation
8	Branch Meeting	6:00 p.m.	Holiday Inn, 17th and Anderson
8	International Women’s Day		
9	Creative Cookery	11:30 a.m.	Longhorn Steakhouse
10	Great Decisions	10:00 a.m.	Meadowlark Hills
11	Book Talk	10:00 a.m.	Mary Stamey’s home
14-18	Spring Break Week		
15	Deadline to turn in newsletter articles		
16	Branch Recruitment for 2016-2017 Begins		
17	St. Patrick’s Day		
22	Serendipity	11:30 a.m.	Meadowlark Hills



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**

Karen L. Tinkler
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Empowering Women Since 1881



Email: manhattanksaauw@gmail.com

The American Association of University Women, founded in 1881, is a nationwide community with more than 170,000 members and supporters, 1,000 local branches, and 800 college and university (C/U) partners. Our mission is to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. In the 2014-2015 academic year, for example, AAUW has committed more than \$3.7 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