



Nevada Branch of AAUW  
January 2025



### President's Message

Well, 2025 is here and some things never seem to change. Checking the archives for Nevada Daily Mail in 1909 for some other information, I ran across a news article saying that people should be paid equally for working equal jobs. Here we are 115 years later and through the efforts of AAUW and others, today marks the birth of the 28<sup>th</sup> Amendment. In a statement from President Biden, January 17, 2025, he stated that according to the Constitution three-fourth of the states have ratified the Equal Rights Amendment and it is the law of the land. Guaranteeing all Americans equal rights and protections under the law regardless of their sex. WHAT AN EXCITING DAY FOR WOMEN. As you know this has not been a simple

process. It was first introduced in December, 1923. During the 1960's, with the rise of the women's movement, it garnered increasing support. It was reintroduced in 1971 with a deadline for passage in seven years. During 1972, a total of 22 state legislatures ratified the amendment and eight more joined in 1973, but 38 states were needed to act on the proposed amendment. Missouri voted to ratify the ERA on Feb. 7, 1975, with a tally of 82 to 75. There were lawsuits regarding the deadline extension. ERA ratification deadline was extended to June 30, 1982. In the mid 1990's, ERA supporters began an effort to win ratification of the states that did not ratify between 1972 and 1982. The

amendment has been reintroduced in every Congressional session. Ruth Bader Ginsburg delivered a bench announcement in May, 2007. Obama signed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Restoration Act in Jan, 2009. Lilly Ledbetter discovered in 1998 that she had been discriminated against with unequal pay and began her journey to the Supreme Court and the White House. It was the hope that our daughters and future generations of women would have the same pay for equal work and be able to pursue their dreams. Ledbetter's book "Grace and Grit" (2012) provides an overview of her efforts for the ERA.

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### Nevada AAUW Branch Officers for 2024-2025

Phyllis Sprengle/Sara Compton,  
Co-Presidents  
Judy Campbell, President Elect  
Savannah Hampton,  
Membership VP  
All Members, Program VP  
JoAnn Jones, Treasurer  
Karen Ebert, Secretary

### Free Emergency Pregnancy Kits

These kits can be obtained through [mfhc.org](http://mfhc.org)

Clarisse will receive the kits for storage and distribution.

### January Meeting

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

5:30 Social, 5:50 Program, Business Meeting following  
**Program: Book Review "Becoming Madam Secretary"**

**Facilitator:** Judy Campbell

**Location:** First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall  
(Olive & Hickory—enter East side)

**Hosts:** Allison & Sara



### AAUW Dues

are \$85 and can be paid to Treasurer, JoAnn Jones, at any meeting. Make checks payable to AAUW.

### MEMBER NEWS

**Sara Compton** retires in January with 40+ years in Information Technology. Her IT career included businesses of banking, manufacturing and health services.

**Allison Fast** and husband Rick will be watching grandkids, Aiden and Aubrie, when son and daughter-in-law (Derek and Megan) will be flying to NYC for a 5-day vacation. They have tickets to see The Late Show With Stephen Colbert, will attend the opening night of Hugh Jackman at Radio City Music Hall, and see another Broadway show.

### STEAM CAMP UPDATE

The STEAM Camp will be held on Sat, **April 12, from 8:30 AM to 2:15 PM**, and will include lunch in the Cottey Dining Hall. It will be sponsored by AAUW, Cottey College, MU Extension, and 4-H. A productive planning meeting was held on Dec 5, with Allison and Clarisse for AAUW, Ganga for Cottey, and Linda Clinton for the MU Extension and 4-H. The event will be open to girls and boys from ages 8 to 12. There will be 5 workshops: Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math.

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## Nevada AAUW Programs 2024-2025

January 28 5:30 p.m.

Book Review

*Becoming Madam Secretary*  
by Stephanie Dray

Facilitator: Judy Campbell  
Business Meeting

Location: Presbyterian  
Church Fellowship Hall  
Olive & Hickory

Hosts: Allison and Sara

February 25 5:30 p.m. \*

Women's Heart Health

Location: Library Annex  
Walnut & Main

March 25 5:30 p.m. \*

Equal Pay for the Long Haul/  
Retirement-JoAnn Jones

Location: Library Annex  
Walnut & Main

April 22 5:30 p.m.

Topic to be announced

Business Meeting

Location: Presbyterian  
Church Fellowship Hall  
Olive & Hickory

Hosts: Ellen and Judy

May 27 5:30 p.m.

Awards Banquet

\* Open to the Public

## Take-aways from the January Missouri AAUW Presidents Meeting/Zoom

- National dues increase proposed (\$5 a year for 5 years)
- Express your opinion on National dues, public policy and by-law proposals by 1/29 4:00pm CST (attached resource)
- Feb 22 Legislative Briefing 9-12
- Find out status of legislative bills at <https://www.congress.gov>

## Branch Minutes

On November 19, at 5:30 p.m. the Nevada Branch of AAUW assembled in the Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall for a social time. Thank you to the hostesses, Clarisse and Karen. Sue Shineman, MO AAUW President spoke on Public Policy and distributed 2 handouts. She also talked about Securing the Future, a seminar held earlier that day on Zoom. The MOAAUW is focusing on creating an Ad Hoc committee focused on all elections. We must all be advocates for women's rights. It is recommended that we all sign up as a 2-minute advocate. The structure of AAUW is going to change. Members were asked to envision what the local AAUW will look in 2030. She suggested making a list of local women's groups, having someone track public policy issues, and utilize social media. Thank you for a very informative talk.

The business meeting was called to order at 6:55 p.m. by Sara Compton, Co-President. A request to amend the October minutes to include the last name of our October guest speaker from the Joplin Area League of Women Voters was made. The minutes then stand as amended. The financial report was published in the Newsletter and approved as written. The budget was then discussed as reductions need to be made. There were no responses from the questionnaire sent via e-mail about budgetary issues. It was decided to take the graduating seniors and returning students scholarships out of the budget, the cost of guests for the Spring Banquet, as well as the NCCWSL conference, which is no longer sponsored by AAUW, although they are still involved. The local branch still needs to raise \$900 to meet the budget. The local organization can apply for a state enrichment grant, which would have limit of \$175, and funds cannot be used for food. A motion was made by Judy C. to accept the amended budget. Motion seconded by Clarisse F. Motion passed with one opposed. An updated membership directory is needed. We now have 12 members. Joann J reported that the AAUW Inclusion and Equity program will have to be revamped, due to political pressure. Cottey College is a university member and Karla McClain is our contact person.

**Old Business:** STEM camp is held every week from 3:30 to 4:30 at the Nevada Public Library. They could use funds to defray costs and could use adult volunteer help. Previous efforts to join with 4H for their STEM camp did not align. This continues to be a work in progress. By-Laws need to be updated but the committee has been unable to find any local By-Laws and is unclear about the most recent national and state By-Laws.

**New Business:** Allison F was reimbursed \$50 for rental of the Library Annex for the October meeting. A December social was discussed but most wanted this held at another time, as December is very busy. The 2025 programs are not all secure. January is the book review on *Becoming Madam Secretary*. The February program on heart health is not confirmed. March is confirmed. April has been left open for issues that arise. The banquet will be held in May. June is the planning meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m. after a motion by Sheryl B and a second by all.

Karen Ebert, Secretary

## STEAM Camp....continued from Page 1

Registration will be \$20, with a limited number of scholarships available. We (AAUW) should be able to provide these with the help of the community grant. Registration deadline will be Fri, April 4. We will also assist with registration/check-in the morning of the event, name tags, and certificates of completion. We didn't discuss snacks, but we may be able to help there also.

Ganga and Linda are working on the curriculum. Linda will set up a Google form for registration and compile the workshop booklets for the participants. There are many more details, but the plan is taking shape and it should be a great event. Please let Allison or Clarisse know if you have any questions, or will be available to help on **April 12** (even if just for a few hours).

### 2024-2025 Proposed Budget

This proposed budget was amended at the November meeting and approved for the 2024-2025 year

	2023-24	2023-24	2024-25
	Budget	Actual	Proposed
<b>INCOME</b>			
Dues (National/State)	1230	1230	1230
Fundraiser #1	2000	2110	810
Funds on Hand	850	968.87	0
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>4080</b>	<b>4308.87</b>	<b>2040</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Dues (National/State)	1230	1230	1230
Program	70	70	70
Girls emPOWERment	40	40	40
Convention	0	0	0
Membership (postage/supplies)	0	25.15	0
Banquet (Members)	0	0	0
Banquet (Guest meals/decorations)	90	90	0
Scholarship (\$600 x 2)	1200	1200	0
Girls State	0	0	0
Cotley Leadership Program/NCCWSL	500	565	0
AAUW Funds - Greatest Needs	500	500	500
AAUW Funds - Legal Advocacy	0	0	0
AAUS Funds - Educational Oppor.	0	0	0
Community Projects	0	0	0
Fundraising Raffle	250	250	0
Branch Administration	0	0	0
STEM	200	200	200
Misc. Regional Conference	0	459	0
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>4080</b>	<b>4629.15</b>	<b>2040</b>
(1) Budgeted: 14 members			
(2) Actual: 14 members			

Treasurer's Report		Treasurer's Report: December 2024	
Beginning Balance (01/01/2025)			2008.15
Income			0
			0
Disbursements			0
Ending Balance (12/31/2024)			2008.15

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE ...continued from Page 1**

The NEW ERA was introduced in 2013. With renewed pressure Virginia became the 38<sup>th</sup> state to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment in January of 2020. In 2023 the Caucus for the Equal Rights Amendment was founded and work continued on behalf of women.

With President Joe Biden's declaration last week and his statement the Equal Rights Amendment was long past due. Women were celebrating this milestone. But wait, more disappointment. The declaration has no formal effect; however, the National Archives has said they do not intend to certify the amendment as part of the Constitution, citing "established legal, judicial, and procedural decisions" supporting the integrity of the original ratification deadline.

SO HERE WE GO AGAIN. The battle is still on, and our voices should be heard. How much longer will it take before women are not treated as second-class citizens?

Phyllis Spenkle, Co-President