



Valley View

Co-President's Message



Our first meeting for 2025-2026 was September 16, and we had a very good turnout. It was wonderful to get together with those who had been away over the summer and check in with those who braved the summer here. The social time was lively and fun--a good way to start the year!

We enjoyed an informative first program presentation from Youth On Their Own (YOTO), an organization that provides support and a variety of resources (but not housing) to homeless high school students. Rashel Olalde, the young woman who delivered the presentation, was a homeless student herself and a "graduate" of YOTO. She shared her personal story with us, which was inspiring. She not only graduated from high school, she went on to achieve a bachelor's degree from the University of Arizona. With that, she joined YOTO and is now Senior Development Coordinator in the fundraising department. Here's an unsettling statistic: Arizona ranks among the lowest high school graduation rates in the country. Pima County's overall graduation rate is only 71%. One of the most impressive statistics Rashel gave was that 93% of YOTO students graduate from high school! Impressive and important results.

Keeping Girls in School has delivered the Branch's donation of feminine hygiene products and underwear to Continental School. This is the third year our branch was granted an AAUW Arizona Community Action Grant that underwrites this important initiative. Don't forget that the KGIS team will accept products at the monthly general membership meetings. If

(Continued on next page)

Board Meeting:

10:00 a.m., Monday,
October 6, 2025
Via Zoom

General Meeting:

9:00 a.m. (social) 9:30
(program), Tuesday,
October 21, 2025
3rd Tuesday of the month
Canoa Hills Center, 3660
S. Camino del Sol.

Website:

<https://greenvally-az.aauw.net>

Next Valley View

Deadline:

Articles: October 25 to
valleyviewgv@gmail.com

Calendar items:

October 15 to Henne
Queisser

Cards (condolences, get well, etc.): Stacie Meyer



[Follow us on Facebook](#)

Membership:

Alice Sowards at
gvmembership@gmail.com

Mailing Address:

AAUW Green Valley Branch
PO Box 178
Green Valley, AZ 85622-0178

Co-President's message - continued

interested, please bring Always brand teen products. Monetary donations from members are also accepted. (Note: such donations are not tax deductible.)

The sandwich brigade that makes the lunches monthly for children that are treated at the St. Andrew's Children's Clinic in Nogales is a long-standing initiative for our branch, and one that makes a real impact. Volunteers are needed. If you are interested in helping, look for the sign-up sheet at every general meeting.

Unfortunately, we still do not have a fundraising chair. At the September 16 meeting, Co-President Gerry Peterson distributed a list of fundraising ideas that the ad hoc committee had suggested during its summer meetings. There are many good ideas on that list, and some members came forward to mention their favorites. But we need, if not a chair, then volunteers to identify doable fundraising ideas and run with them. Stepping up and helping with a single, easy-to-plan project can make a difference. Please take a look at the list on page 5 and contact Gerry Peterson or me if you can help the Branch in any way.

It was also noted at the September 8 Board meeting that the branch Board approved moving our general membership meetings to a venue at La Posada, beginning in January 2026. This move, which will save the branch \$1,000 this year through the elimination of 5 months' of GVR rental fees, was the subject of a member survey in August. The vast majority of those replying to the survey were supportive of the change. Again, note that this change will go into effect at the January 20, 2026, general meeting. In November and December, additional information will be provided at the general meetings and via email, including maps for easy navigating to the new location.

Our next meeting is October 21. It will be another opportunity to connect with those returning from afar as well as close friends. And with two speakers from the ACLU, it should be a productive get-together. Please join us and bring a friend. Gerry and I look forward to seeing you there!

Nancy Puckett

Newsletter News

You may have noticed that we are no longer publishing members' phone numbers, email addresses, or home addresses in the Valley View. At the September Board meeting, the Board voted to post the Valley View on the AAUW Green Valley website, not behind the Members Only password-protected section. This policy change is so prospective members can see all the wonderful things that our Branch is doing without compromising members' personal details. Please use the membership roster, available in the Members Only section, to contact members you read about in the newsletter.

October Program: Defending Our Rights and Liberties: Legal Action, Advocacy, Community Power

Tuesday, October 21, 9:00 a.m. (social) and 9:30 (program)
Canoa Hills Center, 3660 Camino del Sol



Katelyn Contreras, Policy Strategist, and Victoria Lopez, Executive Director, at the ACLU of Arizona, will address ongoing and emerging threats to civil rights and civil liberties in the state. Due process, bodily autonomy, freedom of speech, mass deportation, and the importance of continued legal advocacy, public engagement, and community action will be highlighted.

The Mah Jongg and AM Mostly Fiction Book Clubs are responsible for bringing treats to the October meeting.

We hope you will join us!

Upcoming General Meeting Programs 2025

Date	Topic	Presenter
November 18	Immigrants and the Economy: A Vicious or Virtuous Cycle?	Dr. Lisa M. Sanchez, Associate Professor, School of Government and Public Policy, University of Arizona
December 16	Securing Arizona's Water Future	Rosanna Gabaldón, Arizona State Senator, Legislative District 21

Important information regarding a change to our 2026 general meetings

The Board of Directors has voted to move our general meetings to **La Posada Recreation Center, 685 S. La Posada Circle #37, Green Valley, AZ 85614** **beginning in January 2026**. Social time will begin at 1 p.m. and the program will start promptly at 1:30. We will be done by 3 p.m.

Membership Corner

Welcome to our new members who joined last month: **Nina Campfield** and **Alice Parker**.

New members wear a red ribbon on their name badges. Please make a point to introduce yourself and welcome them to our meetings and Interest Groups!

Summer is coming to an end, and with it perhaps cooler weather! Hopefully it's been a good summer for everyone. Thanks to all who attended our first general meeting of the year on September 16—the membership committee enjoyed greeting everyone. Thanks to you who have renewed your membership for 2025-26. If yours is due or upcoming, you can find the renewal form on the website, as well as at each meeting. Our sign-up sheets at the general meetings should help you keep track of your renewal date (a bit more confusing with the new rolling renewal schedule).

Alice Sowards
Membership VP and the Membership Committee

Member News

Congratulations to Jane Lateer!



The Green Valley News, Sahuarita Sun and Nogales International honored 19 people along the I-19 corridor at the 2025 AZ19 Most Influential People honors on Sept. 9, 2025. Among those recognized was **Jane Lateer**, an active AAUW Green Valley member and Branch Parliamentarian.

Jane has been on the board of the Sahuarita Educational Enrichment Foundation (SEEF) for several years, where she has been a past president and currently serves as treasurer to help administer scholarships and fund programs to support Sahuarita teachers and students. As a member of the SEEF Board, she has been instrumental in SEEF's partnership with the Green Valley Sahuarita Optimist Club to sponsor the annual Tee One Up Fore the Kids golf tournament. She also works with Women Who care, which supports special programs at Sopor Elementary School in Amado. Previously, Jane volunteered at the Amado Sahuarita Adult Learning Program, the Rotary Club of Green Valley, and served as a member and past chair of the La Posada Board of Trustees.

(Member News continued on next page)

Member News - continued

Reminder: If you know of any branch member who needs a get-well card, condolence, or congratulations card, please contact Corresponding Secretary **Stacie Meyer**. She will send a beautiful card with just the right sentiment.

Fundraising News

Our Branch has been providing scholarships to Pima Community College students for many years. The September issue of the Valley View highlighted last year's six recipients of our scholarships and their inspiring stories.

The number and size of scholarships is dependent upon Branch fundraising efforts, but there are fewer people willing to work in fundraising. Below is a list of fundraising ideas that branch members developed. Do you have any more ideas?

- Large event at CPAC as usual or in different (smaller) format – other films
- Change 50/50 raffle to keep 75% for branch
- Have one item to auction/raffle per monthly branch meeting (donated or Interest Group basket)
- Encourage scholarship donations throughout the year
- Luncheon with special speaker (from the Book Festival?)
- Make the Spring Luncheon a fundraiser
- Some holiday event
- Go With the Flow Players (improv, @\$100)
- Fashion show
- “Antiques Roadshow”
- Trivia game for members and guests
- Spelling bee for members and guests
- Game night, Bingo
- Evening cocktails or dinner (with music, door prizes)
- Cooking classes
- Mah Jongg group play for money, as per card or more, and donate winnings to branch
- Increase dues

If you (or you and a friend) can help with a single project, please consider stepping up to help. Contact Co-Presidents **Gerry Peterson** or **Nancy Puckett**.

September Meeting Recap

We welcomed 36 members and 6 guests to our September 16 meeting.



Our members were introduced to a wonderful organization that supports the same mission as our own---the benefit of education. Rashel Olalde, Senior Development Coordinator of Annual Giving, presented information about **Youth On Their Own (YOTO)**. YOTO is a nonprofit that supports high school graduation for youth experiencing homelessness and/or lack of adult support in Pima County. YOTO also continues to support the students so they can achieve their goals post-graduation. Support includes financial assistance, basic needs support, and personalized guidance. Rashel's passion for this organization is

founded in the fact that she is an alumnus of the program.

If you are interested in becoming involved with YOTO or would like to learn more about them, visit: www.yoto.org or call (520)293-1136.



Joyce Davison, Co-Chair of Keeping Girls in School, and **Eileen Bond**.



Linda Winterland, Interest Group Chair

Public Policy



On Tuesday, September 16, Judy Thut and I attended the statewide AAUW Public Policy bi-monthly Zoom meeting. It was quite a stimulating and energizing meeting. We learned some very interesting thoughts and action ideas that we would like to share with all of you who still love your longtime interest in public policy, civics, and legislation, but are confused, frustrated, or just too tired to get involved in our current national chaos.

On Friday, October 10, we are meeting at Marilyn's house at 1:30 p.m. with several of you who may want to come learn what other women across this state are doing to stay active about the issues we are committed to as AAUW members — locally, statewide and nationally. We both are sure that our AAUW branch is likely the most unique in the whole state of Arizona, mainly because of our demographics and aging limitations. But, active involvement does not have to take tons of energy or time like we used to expend on all of our interests. Quiet perseverance in small committed groups and doing one little thing at a time can feel great and create wonders!

Sure hope you will join us.

Marilyn Kern and Judy Thut
Co-Chairs, Public Policy

AAUW National News

AAUW Two-Minute Activist Alerts

Join AAUW advocates in the fight for equal pay, equity in education, paid leave, protections against sexual harassment and more. Sign up to get regular alerts on when and how to engage, including sending letters to your legislators, writing letters to the editor and other timely calls to action.

Click on [this link](#) to get more information on the AAUW Action Network.

If you prefer a webinar, click on [this link](#) to be connected to the many resources that AAUW National has made available to its members. A sampling of titles includes:

Our Voice, Our Future: AAUW's Public Policy Principles and How to Take Action
Table Talks: Tips for Bold Conversations
Social Justice: Creating Change

[Click here to register for Fall Forum 2025](#)



The poster features a banner at the top with the AAUW logo and the text 'FALL FORUM 2025 of Arizona'. Below the banner, three hands hold up signs. The central sign reads 'HANDS OFF OUR HISTORY AND OUR FUTURE!'. To the left, a sign says 'Saturday Nov 1, 2025 8:00 - 3:00'. To the right, a sign says 'Cottonwood County Club, Sun Lakes'. Below these, two boxes list 'Speakers' and 'Program'. At the bottom, a box contains 'REGISTRATION' and 'VENUE' information.

AAUW FALL FORUM 2025
of Arizona

**HANDS OFF
OUR HISTORY
AND
OUR FUTURE!**

**Saturday
Nov 1, 2025
8:00 - 3:00**

**Cottonwood
County Club,
Sun Lakes**

Speakers

- Dr Mary Rothschild
- Dr Melanie Sturgeon
- Bonnie Boyce-Wilson
- Legislative Panel with Rep Nancy Gutierrez, advocate Brandi Coon, Rep Jill Willoughby (invited), and others

Program

- 8:00 Doors Open
- 8:30 Registration and Coffee
- 9:00 Meeting and Presentations
- 12:00 Buffet Lunch
- 3:00 Conclusion

REGISTRATION: Open: September 1-October 24. \$45.00 via Zelle or check. Register online at www.aauwarizona.org (or through link above)

VENUE: Cottonwood Country Club, 25630 S Brentwood Drive, Sun Lakes, AZ, 480-895-3550.
Website: www.sunlakesofarizona.com/cc_cottonwood.php

Community Outreach News

Upcoming Events: Save the Date!

Sahuarita Foodbank and Resource Center
Contact: **Claudia Levin**

Monday, October 6, 1:00 p.m.

St. Andrew's Children's Clinic Tour in Nogales
Contact: **Sharon Rezac Anderson**

Thursday, November 6, 9:30 a.m.

Martin Luther King Day Flag Raising
Contacts: **Nancy Bodmer and Karen Lueck**

Monday, January 19, 2026

Rally to End Violence against Women & Girls
Contact: **Libby Beyrer**

TBA

The tour of the **Sahuarita Food Bank and Resource Center** is still open. The tour will be on Monday, Oct. 6, at 1 p.m. The food bank continues to expand their services and classes. They have a mobile unit that can teach cooking skills and how to run a food truck. Things keep changing, and even if you have toured their facility before, there is always something new. If you wish to join the tour, please meet in the lobby at 1 p.m. The address is 17750 S. La Cañada Drive next to Good Shepherd UCC church.

AAUW Green Valley will tour **St. Andrew's Children's Clinic** in Nogales, Arizona, on Thursday, November 6th, leaving Green Valley at 9:30 a.m. The ride will take 45 minutes and the tour one hour. We will carpool. 25 women can attend. Members who have not toured the facility will have first choice. A sign-up sheet will be available at our October 21st meeting. If you can attend, either email **Sharon Rezac Andersen or Kraylen Miholer**. This tour offers an opportunity for members to meet the staff, tour the entire facility, and see the young people for whom we make sandwiches each month.

Check your calendar if you want to volunteer to make lunches for the **St. Andrew's Children's Clinic Lunch Program**. We'll be making lunches on November 5, and December 3, at 11 a.m. It usually takes 30-45 minutes. There are sign-up sheets at all general meetings. Thank you!

Kraylen Miholer
St. Andrew's Children's Clinic Lunch Program

(Community Outreach News continued on next page)

Community Outreach News - continued



Our Branch received another \$500 Community Action Grant to purchase feminine hygiene products for the students at Continental School. **Keeping Girls in School** committee members delivered these items to the Continental School nurse in August. We received \$57 in donations at the September general meeting and will purchase products to donate to local food banks and community groups.

Joyce Davison
Keeping Girls in School Co-Chair

Interest Group News

Do you know the “trick” to making friends in AAUW? “Treat” yourself to joining an Interest Group! At our September general meeting several women signed up for one or more groups. You can do the same this month. Please stop by the table with the Jack-o-Lantern to check out our offerings. You may just find some new Interest Groups!

Linda Winterland
Interest Group Chair

Most Interest Groups are meeting in-person, but the **Non-Fiction Book Club** has decided to continue to meet using ZOOM. We are changing our format though. We will now be discussing a topic of interest which may include reading a book. Our first meeting of the year will be Wednesday, October 15, at 1:00 pm. We will be discussing the causes and implications of (un)employment and other challenges young men face today. The subject was chosen in response to the assassination of Charlie Kirk, whose organization, Turning Point USA, has addressed these issues with such success. The suggested book is, “Of Boys and Men” by Richard V. Reeves. You do not need to have read the book to join in the discussion. If you are interested in joining us, please contact **Karen Lueck**.

We have room for several more members in the **Mostly Fiction Book Group**. Contact **Liz Adams** if you’re interested in joining us.

Interest Groups Calendar

Please refer to your membership roster to contact the group or meeting leaders.

Oct. 2, 1:00 p.m., *Exploring Women's Culture* – The meeting will include an Oktoberfest celebration with Bavarian food and discussion of the German state between 1933-1945: the Nazi regime. All are welcome! Contact Sharon Rezac Andersen for more information.

Oct. 7, 9:30 a.m., *Mostly Fiction Book Group* – Sandra Rooney will lead a discussion of *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles. Contact Liz Adams for information.

Oct. 8, 1:30 p.m., *Mystery Book Club* -- We will be discussing *Fever Beach* by Carl Hiassen. Meet at the Sunset Ramada in Desert Meadows Park. Contact Karen Lueck for more information.

Oct. 13, 3:00 p.m. & Oct. 28, 9:00 a.m., *Mah Jongg* — Mah Jongg meets the second Monday of each month from 3-5 pm and the fourth Tuesday of each month from 9-11 am at La Perla's Apache Room in La Posada. We also try to schedule two pop-up games a month at Canoa Hills Rec Center. If you want to be informed about pop-up games, please email Amy Perlick to be added to the list.

Oct. 14, 1:30 p.m., *Afternoon Fiction* — We will meet in the Apache Room at La Perla on the La Posada campus to discuss *Project Hail Mary* by Andy Weir. Kathy Davisson will lead our discussion. For more information, contact Kathy Davisson.

Oct. 15, 1:00 p.m., *Non-Fiction Book Group* -- This will be an organizational meeting, via Zoom, to discuss future topics and books. Contact Karen Lueck to receive the ZOOM invitation.

Oct. 24, 11:30 a.m., *Out to Lunch Bunch* – We will be meeting at Coyote Grill at San Ignacio Golf Course. We will try to eat outdoors, depending on the weather. RSVP to Nancy Bodmer.

Mondays, 1:00-3:00 p.m., *Needles and More* -- The Needles and More Interest Group meets every Monday from 1:00 to 3:00 pm in the Lantana Room in La Vista at La Posada. For more information, contact Pat Young.

Contact Linda Winterland if you are interested in starting a new group.

Send calendar items to Henne Queisser by the 15th of the month.

AAUW Green Valley Board 2025-2026

Elected Officers

Co-Presidents	Nancy Puckett & Gerry Peterson
Vice President Membership & Directory	Alice Sowards
Vice President Membership Elect	Bev Peake
Treasurer	Gail Garrison
Treasurer Elect	Annie Stitt
Recording Secretary	Sue Schmuck
Corresponding Secretary	Stacie Meyer
Program Vice President	Paula Kulina
Program Vice President Elect	Brenda Quick
Nominating Committee	Sharon Lyons

Appointed Positions

By-Laws	Cynthia Surprise
Communications	Claudia Levin
Community Outreach	Claudia Levin
Fundraising	Vacant
Hospitality	Kathy Davisson
Parliamentarian	Jane Lateer
Philanthropy	Karen Lueck
Public Policy	Judy Thut & Marilyn Kern
Newsletter Editor	Amy Perlick

Ancillary Positions

Archivist/Historian	Pat Young
Calendar	Henne Queisser
Interest Groups	Linda Winterland
National Funds	Gail Garrison
Raffle	Ann Bradford & Marcia Salley
Webmaster	Sara DeRouchey
Assistant Webmaster	Henne Queisser
Honored Members Committee	Amy Perlick
Blast Chair	Kathy Davisson
St. Andrew's Clinic Lunches	Kraylen Miholer
Keeping Girls in School	Joyce Davison and (vacant)

Valley View Notes

Editor: Amy Perlick
Calendar: Henne Queisser
Proofreaders: Sharon Lyons, Henne Queisser, Linda Winterland

AAUW Mission: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.