



BRANCHING OUT

A NEWSLETTER OF
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
TAHLEQUAH BRANCH
MARCH 2007

MEETING
THURSDAY MARCH 15
AT 5:30 PM
VIDALIA'S RESTAURANT
Women's History Month

A terrific presentation will be the highlight of this month's meeting. Be sure to mark this on your calendar and plan to attend!

Six students from the **NSU Department of Communication** will provide the program for our meeting. In honor of Women's History Month, a poetry performance about women will be presented, and five of the students will share their definitions of what it means to be a feminist in 2007.

Bekah Buster, a member of the NSU forensics team who was recently named state champion in dramatic interpretation, will provide the poetry reading. Feminist definitions will be discussed by the authors, including graduate students, **Abbie Littleton** and **Sarah Stanberry** and undergraduate students, **C. Kyle Rudick**, **Sarah Turner**, and **Amy Sanders**. Audience discussion is encouraged. This month's program will be facilitated by Amy Aldridge Sanford.

*Guest Editor's Note: I will be writing the newsletter for March and April while Sonya DePaula is recuperating from a medical condition. **Hope you are doing well, Sonya!** Irene Wickham*

President's Message

Hello!

March has arrived. Legislative Day at the Capitol will be March 7, 2006, and of course, it's Women's History Month. Amy Aldridge Sanford's students will present our program on March 15th at 5:30 p.m. at Vidalia's on Women's History.

Many thanks to Lela Stowers for the February program on Leadership. It was an interesting and fun program.

Joyce Rose
AAUW Tahlequah Branch President



Woman to Woman Lecture

Wednesday, April 4, 2007

This year, the **AAUW Woman To Woman Lecture** is designed to help us learn about Middle Eastern Women. **Dr. Mohja Kahf**, an associate professor of Comparative Literature at the University of Arkansas, will present **"Burqas, Bras and Battlezones"** at 2 p.m. in the first floor auditorium of the NET Building on the NSU campus. Put this on your calendar now so that you will come. Bring your friends to this informative presentation.



AAUW members are invited to have lunch with our speaker at 12 noon at Vidalia's Restaurant before the lecture. A reception provided by Sodexo will be held immediately following the program.

Dr. Kahf will be available to autograph her latest book, "The Girl in the Tangerine Scarf." In this novel, Khadra Shamy recalls growing up in an immigrant Syrian family in 1970s Indianapolis. Khadra's devout parents raise Khadra and her older brother, Eyad, to be observant of Islamic customs. This book and others which will be available for purchase after the program.

Born in Damascus, Syria, Dr. Mohja Kahf came to the United States as a child. She obtained her Ph. D. in Comparative Literature from Rutgers University in 1994. She is a faculty member in the U of A's The King Fahd Center for Middle East and Islamic Studies as well as in the Program in Comparative Literature.

Booklist describes her first poetry book, "Emails from Scheherazad," as "brilliantly wry and utterly irresistible. Kahf is an earthy, playful and purposeful poet who writes what it's like to be a woman, a person of color, an immigrant, and a headscarf-wearing Muslim in a non-Muslim country."

Kahf's poetry has been published in literary

anthologies and journals. In 2002, she received an Arts Council Individual Artist grant for literary achievement. Her first book of literary scholarship was "Western Representations of the Muslim Woman: From Termagant to Odalisque."

You can find more information about Dr. Kahf on the University of Arkansas web site - www.uark.edu.

This will be a presentation worth making time for.

See you on April 4th!

Woman to Woman Exhibit

In conjunction with the AAUW Woman To Woman Lecture, the **Northeastern State University John Vaughan Library** has secured a wonderful traveling photographic history exhibit from **ARAMCO Services Company**. This free display consisting of 88-piece photographic prints and 14 text panels is titled **"Bridging East and West - Saudi Aramco World: 1949 to Present."** The presentation specializes in images of the Middle East and the Islamic World. It will be at the library from **March 26th until April 6th** and may be viewed anytime that the library is open.

Woman To Woman Committee Meeting

The next Woman To Woman Planning Committee meeting will be on Wednesday, March 14th, at 12 noon at Vidalia's Restaurant. Anyone interested is invited to attend.

AAUW/OK LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP

AAUW/OK will present **"Continuing Our Legacy of Leadership"** at the 2007 Leadership Workshop on **Saturday, April 21st** at the **Tom Sneed Center** on the **Rose State College** campus in **Midwest City**. This event begins at **8 a.m.** with registration and will adjourn at **4 p.m.** All members are invited and encouraged to attend. The cost for registration, lunch and all handouts is \$20.00.

In the morning, the speaker will be Seth Chase, an AAUW field director who plans and manages grassroots advocacy on AAUW's public policy priorities including voter education, e-advocacy, and constituent lobbying to members of Congress. Prior to joining AAUW staff, Chase worked for the League of Women Voters Education Fund as the coordinator of

DemocracyNet and coordinator for elections and civic engagement programs.

Mr. Chase will be making the following presentations: ***“AAUW Values, Principles and Power,”*** will address what is currently happening and anticipated changes coming through bylaw amendments to be presented at the AAUW National Convention in Phoenix in June. ***“A Tour Through the AAUW Website”*** will acquaint attendees with the wealth of information on the Member Services Database. ***“Woman-to-Woman Voter Turnout: Planning a Community-Based Campaign to Mobilize Women to Vote”*** and ***“Grassroots Advocacy Leadership Training”*** will help AAUW members focus on public policy issues and make a contribution to their communities.

During the luncheon, participants will have the opportunity to network with other state members who hold similar offices.

After lunch, Dr. Cindy Dougherty will lead an interactive workshop, ***“How To Deal With Difficult People”***. What and WHO causes you stress? Difficult People? This workshop presents tried and true ways to rise above it ... figuratively and literally. You will walk away with usable tools for dealing with daily dolts ... and a smile on your face.

Dr. Dougherty is the Dean of Students at Southwestern Oklahoma State University where her office serves 5,500 students and supports 75 campus organizations. As a “Visiting Executive,” she also teaches nonprofit management at the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College in New Hampshire. She has worked with many corporations, and nonprofit organizations. She holds bachelor’s degrees in English, mass communications and secondary education from Phillips University and a master’s degree in Journalism from the University of Oklahoma. She received an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Eureka College. She previously served as dean, vice provost and vice president at Chapman University in Orange, California.

A registration form is enclosed. If you are going the night before, you may stay at the OKC/Midwest City Comfort Inn & Suites. Hotel reservations should be made by April 14th. Meeting Registrations must be postmarked by April 10th. More information may be found on the AAUW/OK web site:

www.aauwoklahoma.org.

AAUW SCHOLARSHIP

It is time for scholarship applicants to get their applications submitted. The following rules apply:

The scholarship recipient must be a graduate woman pursuing a degree at Northeastern State University;

The amount of the scholarship is \$500, plus a one-year membership in AAUW, to be awarded in the fall semester;

The applicant may be enrolled either full-time or part-time;

The applicant must have a cumulative grade average as follows:

3.5 grade average in all graduate course work attempted. (If the applicant has no graduate course work, the undergraduate grade point average must be at least 3.0);

The recipient must maintain the required cumulative grade average through the spring semester after the award or the scholarship will be awarded to the alternate applicant;

Applications for this scholarship should be **POSTMARKED BY MARCH 26** with the scholarship being awarded for the following spring semester;

The applications will be reviewed by the AAUW Graduate Woman Scholarship Committee for recommendation to the AAUW Board for final approval;

The recipient will be invited to the August or September AAUW (Tahlequah Branch) meeting;

The recipient is encouraged to attend the AAUW meetings;

Scholarship money will be disbursed in early fall upon proof of enrollment; and

Applications should be submitted to Dr. Amy Aldridge Sanford, College of Liberal Arts, Northeastern State University, Tahlequah, Oklahoma 74464.

MEMBERSHIP

This is a good time to encourage your friends to join AAUW. Invite them to our next meeting and to the Woman To Woman Lecture. Anyone joining after March 31 will have their dues paid through June 30, 2008!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- 3/09/07 at 7:30 p.m. & 3/10/07 at 2:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Disney's "**High School Musical**" - Performing Arts Center at Tahlequah High School Campus
- 3/09/07 - **Save-A-Senior Chili Dinner** - 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- First United Methodist Church Activity Building
- 3/10/07 - **Family Fun, Paws to Read**, 10 a.m. - 11a.m.
Rm A; **Storytime** 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. Tahlequah Public Library
- 3/10/07 - "**Murder Mystery**" - 7 p.m. - TPS Foundation Banquet - Indian Capital Technology Center
- 3/11/07 - Daylight Savings Time begins
- 3/11/07 - Sequoyah Institute "**Camelot**" - 2 p.m. - NSU Center for the Performing Arts.
- 3/14/07 and 3/28/07 - **Let's Talk About It - Private Investigators** - 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. - Tahlequah Friends of the Library - Rm B, Tahlequah Public Library

- 3/15/07 - **Indian Nations Audubon Society** - 7 p.m.-
NSU Optometry Auditorium
- 3/15,16,17/ 07 - "**A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum**" -7:30 p.m. - Sequoyah High School Fine Arts Department Theater
- 3/16/07 - **Starwatch Creative Writing Contest** -
Tahlequah Friends of the Library entries due at the Tahlequah Public Library
- 3/27/07 - Sequoyah Institute - **Golden Dragon Acrobats** -7:30 p.m. - NSU Center for the Performing Arts
- 3/29/07 - **Boys & Girls Club Talent Show** at 6:30 p.m.
- Greenwood School Cafeteria
- 3/30/2007 - **Arthur White Jazz Recital** - 8 p.m. - NSU Jazz Lab - 315 N. Muskogee Avenue - Free
- 4/6/2007 - **Legislative Focus Series** - 7:30 a.m. - Free
Tahlequah City Hospital - Admin Building
- Ongoing - **Preschool Storytime** - Tahlequah Public Library -
Every Friday at 10:30 a.m.; **Baby Laptime** - Every Tuesday at 10 a.m.
- Ongoing - "**The Eye Site: A Traveling Exhibit on Low Vision for Shopping Centers**" Tulsa Promenade -Feb. 17 -
Mar. 15; Oklahoma History Center Oklahoma City Mar. 17 -
Apr. 19; Central Mall Lawton Apr. 21 - May 17. Traveling exhibit sponsored by NSU Oklahoma College of Optometry and the Dean A. McGee Eye Institute at OU College of Medicine.

Joyce Rose
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