

AAUW Faculty and Students Raise Awareness of Breast Cancer

10.26.2017

October is "Breast Cancer Awareness Month," and the Weatherford branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) and the AAUW@SWOSU student branch are helping to spread the word.

To raise awareness, AAUW and SWOSU student members put together baskets of pink ribbon-themed giveaways (i.e., bracelets, hair ties, buttons, duckies, pencils) to put in both the male and female residence halls at SWOSU. Baskets are sponsored by the members themselves.

In addition, members stuffed 25 packages of pink and white chocolates for Miss SWOSU and Miss SWOSU Outstanding Teen contestants, plus 15 packages of pink and white jelly bellies for Little Stars (girls in grade school who participate with contestants). Packages included informational breast cancer awareness tags with a self-knowledge test by the American Cancer Society, which can be found at <http://bit.ly/1nRGfk0>. The gifts will be presented at the Miss SWOSU pageant on October 28.

Breast cancer is the most common cancer in American women, except for skin cancers. Currently, the average risk of a woman in the United States developing breast cancer sometime in her life is about 12%. And, men can get breast cancer, too.

Members of the Breast Cancer Awareness Committee for the Weatherford AAUW branch include Dr. Lisa Appeddu (pharmacy) and Kathy O'Neal (mathematics).

The AAUW works to promote education and equity for women and girls. The AAUW Weatherford branch is planning a fundraiser in November to raise monies to provide college student scholarships and sponsorships to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). The annual branch Christmas party is planned for the evening of December 4 and will include refreshments, gift exchange, fun and fellowship. Both events are open to the public.

For more information about the AAUW Weatherford branch, contact president Dr. Karen Sweeney at 580.774.3117. For more information about the AAUW@SWOSU student branch, contact sponsor Dr. Lori Gwyn at 580.774.3744.