

AAUW Mission

To advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research.

HIGHLIGHTS

MAY BRANCH EVENTS

Board Meeting

Thursday, May 16th at 4 pm
Terrace Room at The Manor
All members invited!

2019 Scholarship Luncheon

Saturday, May 18th at 12 noon
(Doors open 11:30 am)
SEE ARTICLE on Page 2.

NO GENERAL MEETING IN MAY

TIME TO RENEW!

DUES are now DUE for FY 2020!
Now through June 30th is the time to pay
DUES for our 2019- 2020 year.

Please send me the renewal (or new)
member form with your check for \$90. You
may also renew online with a credit card.

Monica Weyhe, VP/Finance
AAUW Medford
P.O. Box 1204
Medford, OR 97501

MEDFORD BRANCH ASSETS

Monica Weyhe, VP/Finance

Assets as of 4/15/2019
Money Market \$9,100.72
Checking Account \$4,084.06
Certificate of Deposit: \$2,451.70



Bonnie and Lee Bollschweiler (Grants Pass) with other happy winners of Certificates of Achievement.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Bonnie Goldfein

BREAKING NEWS FROM SALEM... Gayle Clason, Joan Rycraft and I joined about 75 other AAUW leaders from around the state April 11-14 for what will be the last State AAUW Convention. (Not to worry... There will still be these gatherings, but the assembled group voted to change the name from "Convention" to "Annual Meeting.") The weekend at the Salem Convention Center & adjacent Grand Hotel was jam-packed with Lobby Day activities, Enrichment Tours, banquets, inspiring speakers, fund-raising opportunities, workshops, business sessions and district/board meetings... so we were kept hopping from Thursday through Sunday. Through it all, we had lots of opportunities to hob-nob with old and new AAUW friends, too.

Here are some of the weekend's highlights:

- **Lobby Day** – Gayle and I met with Senator Jeff Golden to urge his support for HB 2562, which would raise the current .25 FTE for the State Title IX Coordinator position to 2 FTE and to make other improvements to the State's handling of the whole Title IX issue, as many Title IX mandates have been unaddressed in our state for a long time. We are hopeful that Senator Golden heard us and will support the passage of this bill.

- **Elections** – All Recommended Candidates for 2019-2020 State positions were elected unanimously. They are: Co-Presidents-Elect Pat Lehman (Wallowa County/Salem) & Sue Klumph (Grants Pass); Program VP Pat Squire (Lake Oswego); Membership VP Gini Dideum (Seaside); Finance VP Sarah Elmer (Bend); Secretary Kristin Mauro (Salem). Newly elected District Directors are: North Central -- Nancy Dunis (Lake Oswego) and our own Joan Rycraft for the South District.

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A VERY SPECIAL EVENT!

Mary Wright Gillespie

On Saturday, May 18, we will celebrate with our annual Scholarship Luncheon. This is the time we recognize and honor the scholarship recipients and hear their stories. The location is the Rogue Room of Skyline Plaza. The meal will be served at 12:00 and the committee will be there to greet you starting at 11:30.

To make your reservation, please write a check for \$20 to AAUW Medford and send it to Mary Wright Gillespie, 2127 Quail Point Circle, Medford, OR 97504. These reservations are due by May 13.

This is a wonderful occasion to highlight what our branch of AAUW accomplishes. If you are unable to attend, please consider donating the same amount of money as an angel to help us pay for the guests of the scholarship winners. (If you are attending, you can be an angel, too, by writing your check for an additional \$20. Please write "Angel" on the memo line.)

The Garden Tour committee has requested a table to sell tickets for this year's tour to our members. That will be available as you enter the hallway. Also, there will be a table for membership renewals.

BUY YOUR GARDEN TOUR TICKETS AT THE LUNCHEON!

Monica Weyhe and Robin Smith, Garden Tour Co-Chairs

Another way to honor the scholarship recipients and our members who worked so hard to put on the Scholarship Luncheon is to buy tickets for family, friends, and yourself on your way into the Luncheon.

Branch volunteers will be waiting to sell you tickets for the June 8th tour for only \$20 each. That will also help honor the work of all of the Garden Tour Volunteers, who are proud to give 100% of profits! to local college scholarships to further the education of local women and girls.

On Tour, you will have a fun day, the opportunity to win a door prize, and to buy raffle tickets for other valuable prizes. Remember, the purchase through MUWCF, our 501(c)(3) collaboration, is tax deductible!



WINS

The Medford Branch was celebrated with multiple Certificates of Achievement during the awards ceremony at the Convention. Our Wins:

First Place: Outstanding Recruitment (18 New Members) in Fiscal Year 2019

First Place: Total Contributions to the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund

Second Place: Per Capita Contributions to AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund

Second Place: Total Contributions to AAUW Funds (Gresham branch \$10,769; Medford \$10,600.23)

Fifth Place: Per Capita Contributions to AAUW Funds

AAUW Funds Named Gift Honorees:
Paulette Avery & Valerie Barr
(CONGRATULATIONS!)



**Breaking Barriers
to Leadership**

AAUW of Oregon Convention 2019

THIS IS YOUR MOMENT TO TAKE ACTION



KIM CHURCHES

We in Oregon were very lucky to have Kim Churches join us for the Convention weekend. In two mostly-extemporaneous talks, our National leader informed, challenged and inspired every person in the room. Taking the reins of National only recently, Kim brings a wealth of experience and – more important – a true passion for everything that AAUW stands for and accomplishes for women and girls. She is also a talented money-manager, it seems, so we can be more confident than ever that the dollars we send off to Washington, D.C. will be put to the very best use.

Kim's theme for us is "This is Your Moment to Take Action." The actions she promotes are:

1. Take the training and promote Work Smart Online.
2. Get involved with Policy initiatives
3. Contribute to the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund.

Work Smart Online – If you are thinking that this training – generally called "Salary Negotiations Training" – is not for you ("I'm no longer working," you say), Kim points out that each of us needs to negotiate something all the time. The FREE Work Smart Online course teaches skills that come in handy when you're at the car dealership or any vendor location, when family tasks arouse "discussion" or just about any time there are two or more sides of an issue (and you want to know how to prevail).

Coca-Cola has awarded AAUW National a huge grant based on National's commitment to register 100,000 people to take Work Smart Online training by August, 2019. As Kim said, "Failure is not an option," as National simply cannot refund the money grant!

What should YOU do? Go to your computer or smart-phone and type in salary. AAUW.org to register for Work Smart training. You can go through the course at your own pace, always keeping in mind that as you are helping your own negotiations skills to grow, you are ensuring that AAUW National will maintain Coca-Cola's big grant (and maybe get other ones).

Public Policy initiatives – Pretty much self-explanatory... We in AAUW are a powerful force behind so many of today's necessary programs. We just need to be involved!

Contribute to AAUW's Greatest Needs Fund – Kim shared her sincere gratitude for every donation to every one of AAUW's Funds, also pointing out that there are many huge "unfunded areas" that cannot receive money from donations to designated funds. To pay for the millions of dollars budgeted for things like Public Policy & Research, office rent & staffing, Conventions support and so many other necessities, donations to AAUW Greatest Needs Fund are essential. Kim welcomes comments and questions from AAUW members. You can contact her directly at: churchesk@aauw.org.

MILESTONES

May Birthdays

- 16 Patty Finch
- 16 Naurine McCormick

(So many in April... What happened with May?)



NELLIE BLY • May 6, 1864

Her real name was Elizabeth Jane Cochrane. A pioneering journalist, she once faked insanity so she could be committed to a mental institution in the name of investigative journalism.

Her circumnavigation of the globe in 72 days was the inspiration for Jules Verne's tale of Phineas Fogg, in *Around the World in 80 Days*.



SALLY RIDE • May 26, 1951

In 1983 Sally Ride became the first American woman in space. It bears noting that she was also the youngest American ever to achieve this feat. While she is best known for her career as an astronaut, her most impressive achievement might have been maintaining her composure while dealing with reporters' absurd and often offensive questions. People Magazine's Michael Ryan once wrote about some of the worst offenders, including "Do you weep when things go wrong on the job?" To this Ride replied, "How come nobody ever asks [a male fellow astronaut] those questions?"



HIGH TEA

Carol Schaefer

We ladies in lovely hats gathered on April 6th at The Teapot on Wheels to celebrate the highly successful Phantom Tea Party at – appropriately – High Tea.

The table was set with lovely china. There were over 80 different teas to choose from. Each setting had a dish with a few pieces of fruit. The first offering was scones with Devonshire cream, lemon curd and strawberry jam. The scones were lovely... light and not crumbly. The second course was the three-tiered dish with petite crust-less sandwiches and small pieces of sweet cakes.

A delicious chocolate pot-de-crème came next, followed by a small portion of home-made pasta in white sauce.

The hats to borrow were a nice touch. Don't we look fashionable?



STILL SEEKING NEW VOLUNTEER WEBMASTER!

Monica Weyhe

Many thanks to Barbara Basden, who has been temporarily filling this position through June 30th! We need to fill her position beginning July 1, and earlier would be better for some overlap.

The job mostly entails posting the newsletters, minutes, meeting and program info, photographs, etc. in DOC, PDF & JPEG formats on our Branch website. The platform used for website editing is WordPress with the structure of our site already in place.

Familiarity with Word (you will need to have Word on your computer) is most important, and some HTML and some basic photo editing skill is also desired, but can be quickly learned with Barbara's mentorship.

Contact: Barbara or Monica

ACT PLANNING MEETING

Donna Corey

Please join us on Friday, May 17 at 10 am at Good Beans café in the Hillcrest Business Center, (3240 Hillcrest Park Drive off North Phoenix Road) for this planning session. Bring new ideas and review old ones so we can move forward next fall.

ACT is our community outreach program and is meant to assist other activities in the area that support our Mission of empowering women and girls. In the past we have helped Foster Kids, Maslow needs for girls, the Women Veterans programs, and we have judged senior projects for our local high schools and wrapped gift bags for the Festival for Trees, helped with Kids Spree. This past year we filled cleaning baskets for women in the Rogue Retreat program who are moving into their own apartments.

ACT should be a branch committee activity and is a great way to contribute some time in helping in the valley and spreading the mission of AAUW. Please email me (donnacorey6@msn.com) if you can come to the planning session, so that we know about how many seats to save. Thanks.

PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE

Gayle Clason



At the AAUW of Oregon Convention in Salem, members were able to hear and interact with Kim Churches, new CEO of AAUW. She is vivacious, intelligent and well spoken, just the leader that this organization needs. Hearing the financial difficulties of our organization (with dues covering only 15% of an already lean budget) was eye opening!

On April 1st, you received an e-mail from Kim Churches urging you to VOTE to select the Board of Directors and vote on amendments to our 2019–21 Public Policy Priorities, providing the framework for the advocacy work we do at the local, state and national levels. Look for this (It will probably be sent again).

Your voice and your vote are vital to AAUW's future. That's why it is so important for you to participate in the 2019 AAUW National Election to elect members to our board of directors and set AAUW's Public Policy Priorities.

AAUW is a "grassroots" organization, so take the time to examine the candidates' statements and give direction to lobbying efforts at State and National levels. Online voting is now open and will close on May 14 at 6:00 p.m. ET.

You may interrupt this voting and complete it later. By the way, Mardy Stevens, our dual Medford member from Gresham, is on the ballot.

Bonnie and I attended AAUW Lobby Day in Salem with briefings and a visit to Jeff Golden, Senator from Southern Oregon. As Bonnie mentioned in her Message, we urged him to support HB 2562, increasing personnel handling Title IX in the Department of Education from .25 FTE to 2 FTE. Optimism is high that K-12 funding for Education has become a priority during this session after 30 years of underfunding, resulting in Oregon racing to the bottom.

We are now nationally ranking 6th largest in class size, 3rd in shortest school year and 3rd lowest in graduation rate. Oregon spends \$10,842/ student, while the national average is \$12,910/student, with the highest per student rate (Vermont) at double Oregon's rate! At a time of economic security in Oregon, corporate taxes are 50th, lowest in the nation. Keep in mind: Schools provide future workers for businesses that are currently recording record profits!

Washington State pays their teachers 20-25% more than Oregon teachers, which causes over-stressed teachers to migrate north. There is no doubt: the future of Oregon depends on adequate funding of schools.

The Theme of Lobby Day this year was Student Success, giving us hope that finally this appears to be a priority with this legislature, but results will depend on the entire Oregon budget. As Senator Golden told us, there are many needs in the state that are competing for revenue dollars.

A request for support of Senate Bill 794 was also presented to Senator Golden during our brief meeting. This bill concerns tracking married students and students with children on their college success. Unfortunately, Oregon doesn't track how many of our students find themselves in this situation. We can't determine whether student parents graduate at the same or different rates as others. We don't know whether student parents drop out at the same or different rates as students without children, or if they take longer to obtain a degree or feel they must limit their career aspirations.

And Kudos to the large group of elementary students with teachers crowded into Senator Golden's office for the appointment after the Medford AAUW team. This group is having an introduction to influencing policy at an early age.





SPOTLIGHT: SANDY HEATH

My husband Danen and I moved to Medford in 2017. I met Carol Koszyk at Roxy Ann Winery, where she asked me to join AAUW, and I haven't looked back. I enjoy being around these smart women with passion, commitment, and who like to have fun! I'm currently the Membership VP (looking for a co-VP!).

I was born in Weaverville, CA, and graduated from high school in Angels Camp, CA. After a year at Chico State, I married, had two children, worked, took an occasional class, but didn't finish. Later I moved to St. Helens, Oregon, and had another child. Working for Portland General Electric, I enrolled in a remote learning program (before internet) from Eastern Oregon University, graduating the same day my son graduated from high school! I also did "Mom things": Brownies, Little League Board, graduation party chair, church secretary; and I volunteered for United Way, including campaign chair and board of directors. I also loved to hike and conquered Mt. St. Helens and South Sisters.

Ten years later I met Danen, took early retirement, and we moved to Denver and then San Jose. After his retirement, we lived in Redding and then Santa Cruz to help with our parents' care.

We have seven children and seven grandchildren between us! Three grandchildren will attend OSU next year. Go Beavs!

I'm very proud of my children, Jodie, Kevin, and Josh. They are all wonderful friends, college graduates, two with post-grad degrees.

Besides AAUW, I volunteer in Kevin's first grade class and the SMART program. We're happy we chose Medford to make our last big move. Icing on the cake: my sister Laurie and her partner settled here, too. The Rogue Valley and the surrounding mountains are ideal for walking, camping, wine tasting, and just enjoying retirement!



MUSINGS MARKETPLACE

Do you have a SKILL you'd like to share or some ITEMS you no longer want or a NEED that a branch member might fill? This occasional GIVE-AND-TAKE column is where you can let people know about it! Arrangements will be between the two of you – no middleman – and can involve barter, an exchange of money or free/volunteer understandings (your choice). This is just a forum for you to tell members what you need or what you can offer. Some suggestions:

- Planning a trip and need a house-sitter and/or pet-sitter?
- Want to house-sit/pet-sit?
- Downsizing and have items to offload?
- Like to sew, quilt, knit or crochet and will accept special orders for projects?
- Want a buddy to walk with you or exercise?
- Want to travel but need a companion?
- Have a hobby you want to share?
- Like to recommend a person who gave you great service?
- Want someone to pick you up for AAUW meetings or activities?

Your Marketplace AD might look like this:

WANTED: HOUSE/PET SITTER. If interested, contact Bonnie at b.goldfein10@gmail.com.

Specific arrangements will be made privately, of course.

If you have a contribution to make to MUSINGS MARKETPLACE, submit it the same way you'd submit anything else (by the 15th of the month before publication) OR just send it to Bonnie.

AAUW INTEREST GROUPS

These small groups provide opportunities for members to meet others who share a similar interest. All groups are free of charge. Members wanting information may call or email a group's contact person or contact Donna Corey, Interest Group Coordinator (541 897-0368 or donnacorey6@msn.com).



BOOK LOVERS

Happy Bookers

Gail Etchie

The Bookers will meet for a discussion of the book *The Great Alone* by Kristin Hannah at the home of Donna Betteridge on Tuesday, May 21st at 1:30 pm. Gail Etchie will be the discussion leader. Please let Donna (dbetteridge3@aol.com) or Gail (gigidesigns007@yahoo.com) know if you will be attending.

Murder Most Literary

Mary Wright Gillespie

On Thursday, May 9, at 7 pm in the Chetco Room, the group will have as their guest Patricia Sprinkle, mystery author of Southern Cozies, who now lives in Medford. Please bring any copies of her books you have borrowed. Mary Wright Gillespie is the contact person.

Morning Book Group

Mary Wright Gillespie

On Wednesday, May 22, at 10 am in the Chetco Room, we will discuss *The Storyteller* by Jody Picoult with Carole Chumblor as the discussion leader. Members will also bring their suggestions for next year's reading list. Sharon Purkerson and Mary Wright Gillespie are the contacts.



COMMUNITY & ART

ACT (AAUW Community Team)

ACT is the AAUW Community Team whose purpose is to help with on-going community projects and encourage both living and educational opportunities for women and girls in our area. We are looking at various new ideas to implement and would appreciate any ideas that you come up with as well as hands-on service as opposed to financial drives.

We are holding up on collecting cleaning supplies for Rogue Retreat for a few months. You have been very generous and we have distributed five baskets so far, and we have enough to make up 4 to 5 more. They gave us an approximate number of 10 a year, so we are right on schedule. Thanks again. The women who have received baskets have been very appreciative.

Antique Studies

Dawn Stewart

The Antiques Interest Group will meet at Mae Boran's home at 11:00 A.M. on Wednesday, May 29th. Mae's home is at 135 Princeville Drive, Eagle Point, OR 97524. Once gathered, we will car pool to a local restaurant for lunch and for those who wish, we will then proceed to have a look (and perhaps buy) some antiques and collectibles at a local establishment. Dawn Stewart (irelandawn@charter.net) will notify each member of our group the details as we get closer to the date.

OUT & ABOUT

Janet Brougher

Please purchase your own tickets and let me know the date you are attending, so I can notify other AAUW members who may want to attend.

MAY

• Saturday, May 4 at 7:30 pm

Rogue Valley Chorale sings "Cole!"—Cole Porter's music at the Craterian Theatre. Tickets are \$10 and \$20. Ronnie, Camille and others are attending.

• May 1 to May 26

"Sherlock Holmes and the Sign of the Four," Oregon Cabaret Theatre in Ashland. Janet & Jane booked a table for May 22. Tickets are selling out for various nights or matinees.

• **May 1-18** -- "The Gin Game" at Camelot Theatre in Talent. Date we are attending TBA.

• **May 24 - June 16** -- "Silent Sky" (women astronomers) at Collaborative Theater Project. Date we are attending TBA.

JUNE

• **June 12-July 14** -- "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" at the Camelot Theatre in Talent. Date we are attending TBA.

• **June 6-August 18** -- "Mamma Mia" (music of ABBA) at the Oregon Cabaret Theatre in Ashland. Date we are attending TBA.

• **June 20, 21, 22** (2 nights in Cottage Grove area) -- Row River hiking and waterfalls

Contact Janet at jjbtougher@gmail.com



FOODIES

DINE (Dinner Is Never Enough)

Virginia McGraw

We will dine at Gogi's Restaurant in Jacksonville on Thursday, May 23, gathering at 6 pm. They can only accommodate 10 of us, so please call me ASAP to reserve your place: 541 245-6035

Lunch Bunch

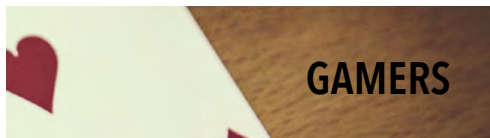
Gail Etchie

We will be traveling to El Molcajete Mexican Grill, located at 1789 W. Stewart Avenue on Tuesday, May 14th at 11:30 am. RSVP Gail Etchie no later than May 10th. 541 664-3744 or gigidesigns007@yahoo.com

Wine & Whine

Gail Etchie

All members welcome! Forgive me if I have Zinned! We will wet our whistle on May 17th at 2 pm. The meeting place is Dana Campbell located at 1320 N Mountain Avenue, Ashland. Let Jan Purkeypile know if you plan to join us. Please RSVP to janpurkeypile@yahoo.com.



GAMERS

Mah Jong

We meet the second and fourth Mondays of the month at 1:30 pm and start play at 2 pm. We rotate hosting duties among members. We usually provide coffee and tea and sometimes light refreshments. We play an American version of the game and we do not use cards. We welcome you to join us. Contact Jackie Baker at 541 857-6849.

Dessert Bridge

Carol Koszyk

The Dessert Bridge Group is doing lunch! We meet courtesy of Carol Chumbler at the Plaza in the Rogue Valley Manor on May 1 at 12 noon for a "No Host Lunch." If you do not want to have lunch, you can join the group at 12:30 pm for bridge. Please do let Carol know what you are planning to do.

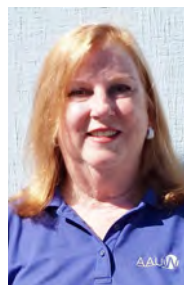
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, CONTINUED...

• **Inspiring Speakers** – Val Hoyle (Keynote) gave us new insights into the “nuts & bolts” of her multi-task job at State Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor & Industry. Paul Thein expressed his gratitude to AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund for helping to support his 12-year-long Title IX whistleblower lawsuit against Feather River Community College. Friends of the late Katherine “Kappy” Eaton gave a moving tribute to this extraordinary woman and longtime AAUW force of nature. And AAUW National CEO Kim Churches stimulated lots of introspection and motivated real action in speeches both Friday and Saturday. (See Kim Churches, page 3.)

• **MEDFORD ROCKS!** When it came time to receive certificates for outstanding Branch performances, I felt a little like a Jack-in-the-Box... No sooner had I returned to my chair with one certificate than “Medford” was announced as the winner of another one! Check the list of our Wins on page 2 to see just how MAGNIFICENT we are.

• **Fund-raising Breaks a Record** – Instead of the traditional basket raffles, we had the opportunity this year to buy \$20 or \$30 bottles of wine (identities hidden until purchased) and/or to buy a \$20 raffle ticket to win a weeklong vacation or one of three other prizes. All wines and prizes were donated by AAUW Oregon members. Attendees obviously embraced the fund-raising change: The AAUW Greatest Needs Fund is receiving a check for \$4805 from this one-weekend event!

Next year's Annual Meeting will be a Joint Event... Oregon and Washington AAUWs will gather at The Heathman Lodge in Vancouver, Washington April 16-19, 2020. There has been talk of inviting Alaska and Idaho AAUWs to join us there, too, but that decision is yet to be made. I hope that some of you will plan to join me at The Heathman next year. It could be a fun road-trip. And I just might need somebody to help me carry off all the certificates we'll be earning by then!



My humble thanks and great gratitude to Virginia McGraw for selecting me a “Major Donor Named Gift Honoree.” The certificate notes the award is “for her commitment and contributions to AAUW.” Receiving this honor at the Convention was overwhelming. I will treasure this award always.

MAILING ADDRESS
Medford AAUW
P.O. Box 1204
Medford, OR 97501

**DON'T
FORGET
ME...**

I'm here
at your
fingertips!



I'M YOUR LOCAL AAUW
WEBSITE:

medford-or.aauw.net

Check me for issues of MUSINGS, for info
on upcoming events, and all sorts of things!



MEDFORD
Musings

For questions or to submit
articles for the next Medford
Musings Newsletter, contact
Amanda Denbeck at
denbeckdesigns@gmail.com

**Send articles by the 15th of
each month no later
than 5PM.**

We're on the web!
Visit us at
www.medford-or.aauw.net

National AAUW website
www.aauw.org

**MEMBERSHIP EXECUTIVE
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(541)295-9361 b.goldfein10@gmail.com

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Carol Schaefer Valerie Barr

Membership Co-VPs
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Secretaries - General Meetings
Janet Brougher Cathy deWolfe

Secretaries - Board Meetings
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CHARITABLE FUND
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