

HIGHLIGHTS



JANUARY BRANCH EVENT

Holly Theater Tour & Short Meeting
Saturday, January 4, 2020 | 10 am
Holly Theater, 226 West 6th Street
See page 2

HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

Please volunteer to be on the 5-person Nominating Committee to find our next branch officers.

Call Carol Koszyk (541-601-6837) to help find our next President, VP/Programs, VP/Finance and board meeting Secretary. **ONE COMMITTEE MEETING ONLY!**
Thank you!



IN OUR THOUGHTS

Virginia McGraw is recovering at home after a hospital stay. She is grateful for daily visits from caring Home Health professionals, who are helping her to get back on her feet. We send her our thoughts and prayers. Get well soon, Virginia!

AAUW Mission

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Bonnie Goldfein



Only six months to go! As I look forward to retirement from my two-year term as your president, I reflect on a lot of good things that we have accomplished and/or enjoyed since July 1, 2018.

We have raised many thousands of dollars for scholarships through our Garden Tours, Camelot Theater buy-out, the Phantom Tea Party and the Hoe Down. We helped to make two KidSpree events big successes for local kids, and our generous donations to the Maslow Project families and Paradise fire victims went a long way toward helping people suffering through hard times, as have our collections of cleaning supplies for disadvantaged families moving into their new homes arranged through Rogue Retreat. Our donations have also helped to fund support for graduate students and legal advocacy in America.

Our general meetings have been program-based, with sign-ins and raffles that can lead to prizes (most for fun, but one drawing so far that led to two FREE National dues for a whole year). Holding two meetings on Thursday evenings offered an attendance option for some members we do not see on Saturdays. Our Holiday Party has been a very enjoyable potluck event for two years now, the most recent celebration pictured in this month's *Musings*. (See pages 3 & 4.) The branch board now meets quarterly, lessening the burden for our dedicated board members while still ensuring that branch business is handled in a timely and efficient manner. Several positions on the board are open for 2020-2021. (See Carol's "Hear Ye!" in column 1.)

On the horizon: Thanks to everyone who submitted the Member Survey. I will compile survey results in January and will share them with you soon afterward. The Strategic Planning Committee is hard at work, reviewing the 2014 Strategic Plan; they will present their suggested updates to the membership in the spring. Plans are afoot for a good showing from Southern Oregon at the 2020 Lobby Day in February (See page 5). And I encourage you to seriously consider joining the group from Southern Oregon at the Oregon-Washington AAUW Annual Meeting (aka Convention) in April. Our branch received significant recognition for both recruitment and fund-raising at the 2019 State Convention... Who knows what kudos await us in 2020!



HOLLY THEATER TOUR

by Val Barr, Program Co-VP

Join us in the lobby of the Holly Theater at 10 am on Saturday, January 4th for a tour of the site under renovation, followed by a very short business meeting.

Construction and remodeling on the Holly Theater has been moving along! Recently, workers installed new heating and air conditioning units on the roof. This phase of the Holly rebuild is for the front portion of the building, which includes office areas, a ticket and lobby area, a VIP lounge and another lounge area on the second floor. Jefferson Live! – which runs the Holly and Cascade Theatre in Redding – will move its offices into the Holly by the end of the year. The 1000 seat theater will feature a wide variety of entertainment in the near future!

Despite the delays, there's been a lot of behind-the-scenes work, including the discovery of many lighting fixtures that local residents had salvaged when the Holly shut down in the 1980s. In addition, workers have recreated many of the decorative pieces inside the building that were damaged or lost.

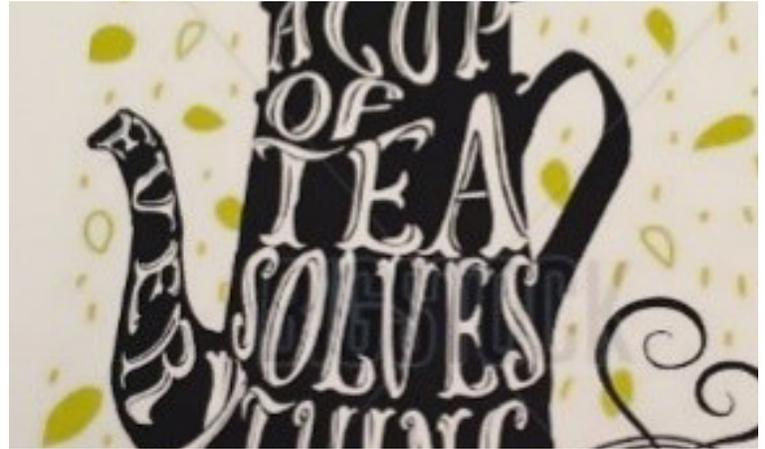
During our tour, we'll see the work completed to date and hear about their next steps. Please join us!

MEDFORD BRANCH ASSETS

(as of November 30, 2019)

Reported by Monica Weyhe, Finance VP

Checking: \$ 3,147.99
Money Market: \$3,101.77
Certificates of Deposit: \$10,112.99



PHANTOM TEA PARTY

by Val Barr, Program Co-VP

Jby Patty Finch & Jackie Baker, Co-Chairs

Keep a lookout for your teabag!

The fun of this season's Phantom Tea Party fundraiser begins in January and continues through February & March.

Enjoy your tea and have fun writing a check to MUWCF to help fund scholarships for deserving women and girls.

Send any amount (from \$1.00 up) in the envelope provided. We'll make sure your donation goes to where it is needed!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

COMING EVENTS

AAUW in FEBRUARY

Medford Branch Meeting | Saturday, February 1, 10 am
Rogue Credit Union (McAndrews & Poplar)

South District Members Meeting | Saturday, February 8
Details to come.

Medford Branch Board Meeting | Thursday, February 20, 4 pm
The Terrace Room at the Manor

AAUW Lobby Day | Monday, February 24

See "Save the Date" on page 5.



Our Holiday Potluck on December 8th was another wonderful time for camaraderie, fine food, songs of the Season and FUN! Please enjoy these photos from the party.



The hard-working Set-up Crew: Carol Koszyk, Mae Boren, Val Barr, Sandy Heath, Carol Schaefer, Donna Corey and Gayle Clason. Camera: Bonnie Goldfein.



Party Planners Carol & Val enjoyed time with our new Scholarship Recipient, Valerie Miller.



Robin Smith, Sandy Heath & Sharon Purkerson ready to join the buffet line.



Choosing tasty treats from the buffet are Ronnie Budge, Lillian Stewart, Zee Nickerson & Mae Boren.



Ronnie catches up with Diane Reiling, who came to the party on crutches!



Bonnie stops by Janet Brouger for a Holiday hug.



Diane Butts' creative head-to-foot "Holiday Attire" helped her win a nice raffle prize.



Teri Moser and Ellen Jones are all ready to dig in to those luscious plates.

Holiday Party Photos Continued...



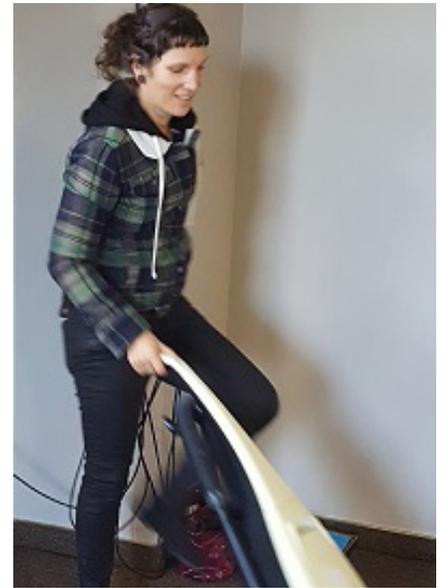
The “St. Merry Carolers” from St. Mary’s added their lovely voices to the festive atmosphere. Thanks to teacher-guitarist Larry Smith, to singers Caitlin, Stephanie, Gabi, Lizzie & Shin and to percussionist Sam (not pictured).



Carol Schaefer led the fun-filled gift exchange with a reading of “’Twas the Night Before Christmas.” How many times does “AND” occur in the poem? (LOTS!)



Shiena Polehn wears a lovely Holiday outfit and a huge Holiday smile.



Grabbing the vacuum for a thorough clean-up is our Scholarship recipient Valerie. Super gal!



Choosing overflow seats in the “gallery” are: Sandy Heath, Carol Koszyk, Zee Nickerson, Trudy Bridgers, Mary Fowler, Gail Etchie, Vikki Piper, Donna Anderson-Betteridge and Jan Purkeypile.



CELEBRATE! JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 6 Carol Rugg
- 11 Camille Korsmo
- 16 Judy Blue
- 22 Ellen Jones'

(Note: If your birthday does not appear in the 2019-2020 Members' Directory and you'd like to be included in our monthly Celebrate! feature, please email your birthday – month & day only – to Bonnie at b.goldfein10@gmail.com.)



SIMONE DE BEAUVOIR

January 9, 1908

Probably best known for her detailed analysis of women's oppression in the 1949 treatise, *The Second Sex*, and for her lifelong relationship with French philosopher Jean-Paul Sartre, Simone de Beauvoir was a French writer, intellectual and existentialist philosopher whose life embraced political activism, feminism and social theory. She had a significant influence on both feminist existentialism and feminist theory. De Beauvoir wrote novels, essays, biographies and an autobiography that revealed her views on philosophy, politics, and social issues. She died on April 14, 1986.



2020 GARDEN TOUR

by Marlene Olson, Garden Tour Chair

The 12th Annual Garden Tour held by our branch will be held on Saturday, June 13, 2020. The gardens have been selected and prospective garden coordinators are being contacted.

The Garden Tour is a special event for our community. We encourage all members to invite friends and neighbors to support this one-day fund-raiser whose proceeds provide scholarships for local women and girls.

PS. The Farmer's Almanac guarantees we will have perfect weather on June 13, 2020!

2020 GARDEN TOUR RAFFLE

WANTED!! Do you have a weeklong or a long weekend in a vacation home (or condo, etc.) that could be donated for our Garden Tour raffle? The donation to AAUW is tax-deductible for the donation, as well as for those who buy a ticket. In 2017, our raffle of a donated vacation spot earned over \$1400! It would be great to exceed that amount in 2020.

If you can donate vacation space or have other ideas for a raffle, please contact me (marlene.olson9@gmail.com).

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

by Jan Purkeypile



Due to the success of the inaugural AAUW Medford Branch Hoe Down and to the members who have agreed to give us more help, we are going to hold the Second AAUW Medford Branch Hoe Down on September 12, 2020.

We have already started planning and working on the event.

If you are interested in helping out, please contact Jan Purkeypile (janpurkeypile@yahoo.com) or



PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE

by Gayle Clason, Public Policy Chair

Please read this very important article from Trish Garner:

An Issue for Today and Tomorrow Child Care and “Care Equity by Trish Garner

One of the issues that is likely to be percolating throughout several different political and legislative arenas is our current child care crisis. As many of you know, child care today is very costly and high quality child care is difficult to find. It is no stretch to say that Oregon’s parents face a “child care desert.” The impact of this crisis on those trying to hold onto lower paying jobs is particularly acute. The lack of child care places significant roadblocks in the way of women begin able to maintain employment — in good jobs — and obtain further education. In September, 2019, Family Forward, which is one of our frequent coalition partners, issued a report “Oregon’s Unmet Needs Child Care: It’s time to Invest - Our Future Depends on It.” See this report at: www.familyforwardoregon.org/site/wp-content/uploads/FFO-Child-Care-Report-2019-REV.pdf. I urge you to read it, as AAUW of OR will be doing what it can to ensure that this issue receives the attention it deserves.

Stay tuned for specific legislative proposals regarding the child care crisis, but if you have any suggestions - what might they be? What is the status of child care in your community? You and your Branch may wish to contact community colleges / universities to see what programs there are (or not) for child care or speak with high school parents. Your Branch may wish to host a forum about the issue or reach out to different communities. This information will likely be very helpful to AAUW of OR public policy advocates when they are attempting to advance child care legislation.

One avenue to ameliorate the crisis is being undertaken by Multnomah County Commissioner Jessica Vega Pederson who beginning in 2018 convened a coalition of leaders from public, private and social sectors to examine and advance a momentum towards equitable preschool access. The Task Force has published a Preschool for All Report, which is well researched, considered and communicated. [<https://multco.us/file/82315/download>]. One of the more interesting findings is that Oregon is the fourth least affordable state in the country when it comes to preschool and that only families in the deepest poverty receive federal and state funding for their children — those below the federal poverty level, with a combined annual income under \$25,100 for a family of four. Way to go, Commissioner Vega Pederson and everyone who served on the Task Force!!

AAUW INTEREST GROUPS

These 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

by Gail Etchie

We will travel to Larks, Inn at the Commons, (200 N Riverside) on Tuesday, January 21 at 11:30 am for our Annual Winter Luncheon and book exchange. Bring an unwrapped book to play. RSVP to Gail (gigidesigns007@yahoo.com) by January 10th if you plan to attend. (We have a reservation and cannot add anyone after the 14th.)

Murder Most Literary

by Mary Wright Gillespie

The mystery group will meet on Thursday, January 9 at 1:00 pm for a potluck luncheon at Mary Gillespie's cottage, 2127 Quail Point Court. The reading list is *The Locked Room Mysteries*. Call Mary if you have questions.

Morning Book Group

by Mary Wright Gillespie

We will meet in the Chetco Room at Skyline Plaza at 10:00 am on Wednesday, January 22. Gayle Clason will lead the discussion on *The Woman Who Smashed Codes* by Jason Fagone. Questions? Contact Sharon Purkerson or Mary.

GAMERS

Dessert Bridge

by Pat Stoddard

Our group does not meet in January. We will play next on Wednesday, February 5th.

FOODIES

Wine & Whine

by Jan Purkeypile

Come unwind from the Holidays and join us on Friday, January 17, at 2:00pm. We will be meeting at Ledger David Cellars, 245 N. Front Street, Central Point.

This winery supported us with a donation for the Hoe Down, so let's support them in return. Please RSVP to janpurkeypile@yahoo.com no later than Wednesday, January 15. We want to let the winery know how many to expect. (If there are any last-minute changes, you will be notified.) Thanks!

DINE (Dinner Is Never Enough)

by Virginia McGraw

Please contact Patty (541 857-6207) with questions about January's DINE dinner date and location.

Lunch Bunch

by Sharon Shatswell

We will meet at 11:30 am on January 14 at Cicily's. Please RSVP to Sharon.shatswell5@gmail.com by January 12.

COMMUNITY & ART

AAUW Community Team (ACT)

by Donna Corey & Robin Smith

Thanks so much to everyone who helped to make this year's gift drive so successful. All items and gift cards were delivered, thanks to Robin Smith's great effort. She shopped and wrapped and delivered the presents to Maslow. It is so heartwarming to hear their thanks.

The AAUW Maslow Project Christmas donation program brought in \$600 in cash/gift card and gift contributions to make the holidays bright for the four girls we "adopted" for this year's gift-giving. In addition, the family of two of the girls received a portion of the gift cards, as well as several donations of bedding and towels to assist in their transition to permanent housing. Over 25 of our AAUW branch members participated in this program. Thank you to each and every one of you!

In January we will again begin collecting cleaning supplies for Rogue Retreat apartments. These welcome baskets are such a nice way of encouraging independence and good wishes to women who have earned the privilege of moving into their own quarters. Please bring baskets or pails filled with cleaning supplies or simply pick up an extra supply to add to our stash. Thanks.

Also, we are helping STEM Chair Yvette McCulley by gathering art supplies for KidsTime. Natural things like corks, picture frames, strings, ribbons, pine cones, etc., are what have been requested. We will have a collection basket for your items at the January and February meetings. From Val Barr: Thank you to Jackie and Dave Baker and Carol Koszyk for participating as judges for the Logos Charter School Career Experience presentations. Our AAUW members and supporter/husband offered their feedback and encouragement to the 11th and 12th graders. We appreciate their time and expertise!

OUT AND ABOUT

by Janet Brougher

OUTINGS IN THE NEW YEAR

February 7 "A Capella Live!" at 7:30pm, Craterian Theatre

March 1, 2 pm "IF/THEN," a musical at Main Stage Theatre, SOU Ashland
March 8, Sunday at 2pm, "A Little Night Music" at the Camelot Theatre in Talent

May 1, 2 or May 8, 9 at 7:30pm Next Stage Repertory Company at the Craterian, performing "Title of Show," an original Broadway musical.

May 30, 31 2pm, "Pericles" by William Shakespeare, Main Stage Theatre, SOU Ashland

June 17-July 26 "Honeymoon in Vegas, the Musical" at the Camelot Theatre

September 23-October 18 "Godspell," a musical about the Gospel of Matthew by Stephen Schwartz at the Camelot Theatre.

Questions? Contact Janet at 541 857-2862 or jjbrougher@gmail.com.

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articles for the next Medford
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of each month, no later
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