

UPDATES

GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, April 4, 6 pm

CANCELLED

We hope to reschedule Judge Patricia Crain and CFP Liz Murphy for presentations during our 2020-2021 Medford AAUW season.

PLEASE LOOK FOR EMAILED UPDATES ON THE STATUS OF OTHER MEDFORD AAUW EVENTS SCHEDULED FOR SPRING & SUMMER, 2020.

AAUW MISSION

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

President's Message *by Bonnie Goldfein*

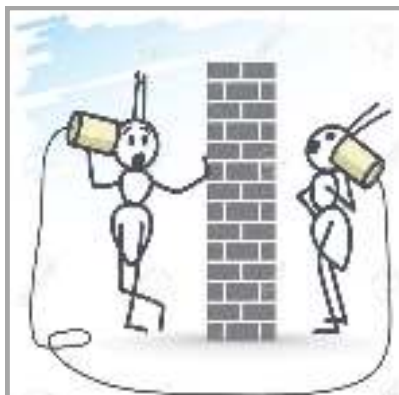
It is no understatement to say that life these days is VERY different from just about anything any of us have experienced before. The only time in my life that bears any similarity at all to the 2020 coronavirus pandemic and its concurrent restrictions was the polio epidemic in 1951. I remember my fourth grade teacher Miss Boyer walking our class the six blocks to Easton Hospital, where a Quonset hut had been set up to isolate polio victims for treatment. Each of us kids climbed upon a big box, one by one, so we could peer through a window and wave at our classmate, Johnny Mack, in his iron lung. All these years later, I can still see his little face reflected in the mirror over his head, tilted so we could see each other.

That summer all public pools were closed to prevent the spread of the polio contagion. We suffered from Pennsylvania's extreme heat and humidity and probably whined a lot that year, but we got through it. My friend Johnny Mack did not; he died in July.

This memory has helped me to put things into perspective this spring. I have been very lucky in life. Maybe you feel this way, too.



Mary Wright Gillespie was the lucky winner of the **Phantom Tea Party Donors' Basket** presented on March 7 by Patty Finch.



ONE WAY TO COUNTERACT "THE BLUES," A.K.A. NEGATIVE FEELINGS THAT COME WITH CORONA VIRUS ISOLATION:

CALL SOMEONE TODAY FOR A FRIENDLY PHONE CHAT. (It'll do BOTH of you a world of good!)

SATURDAY, MARCH 7 MEETING

Help from the Cradle through College!



Our Medford AAUW branch member, **Linda Otto**, informed and inspired the large audience with her personal story that led her to found **Grandmas2Go**. This innovative program provides support and mentorship for families with babies and toddlers, as it also provides very rewarding experiences for the Grandmas (and a few Grandpas) who are part of the program.

To learn more, go to grandmas2go.org or contact Linda at 541 840-2504.



College-bound Dreamer Jackie Rodriguez spoke about her experience.

A unique program begun in Grants Pass in the late '90's, College Dreams is now a wide-ranging program that assists students to finish high school and go on to higher education or career training. Since the program's focus has changed over the years to include support for post-secondary training that is not at a college or university, the College Dreams staff and a focus group of current and former students are trying to come up with a new name that better reflects the organization's broader focus. Hmm... wonder what it will be (Stay tuned!)

Pictured above: Directors Kim DeSimone & Jen Perry with Valeria Carrillo, Nicole Salinger and Jackie Rodriguez of the College Dreams family.

MEMBERS MATTER

by Sandy Heath



NEW MEMBER



STEVE CORELIS

We met Steve at our January tour of the Holly Theater, where he was one of the crew helping AAUW branch members and our 19 guests learn about the plans to reopen this iconic venue. Steve was impressed with our group and wanted to join us... which he did after attending our February and March meetings.

He says, "Thank you for your warm welcome! I am so looking forward to being a part of the wonderful work AAUW does. I am new to Medford, having moved here from the Bay Area a year ago after retiring as an educator. I have a happily married daughter in Apple Valley — no children — and one in San Jose, also happily married, with 10 children. I have no idea what my grandchildren's names are, so I just call them by birth order."

In Our Thoughts

We send caring thoughts and comfort to Jan Purkeypile, whose mother passed away recently.



SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON

Saturday, May 16th



2019 AAUW Scholarship Recipients

We will honor and celebrate our local 2020 scholarship recipients at the annual luncheon on **May 16** in the Rogue Room of Skyline Plaza. The committee will be there to greet you starting at 11:30, with the meal served at 12 noon.

Your check for **\$20**, payable to **Medford AAUW**, is your reservation. Since the April 2 meeting has been cancelled, please send your check to me: Mary Wright Gillespie, 2127 Quail Point Circle, Medford, OR 97504. Reservations are due by **May 8**.

In the past, members, whom we call "angels," have made an extra donation to help defray the cost of the family members who come with the scholarship winners. Any amount added to your \$20 is welcome.

The luncheon is a wonderful time to bring a guest who would enjoy learning about AAUW.

SPOTLIGHT **PATTY HERKERT**

I was born in Binghamton, New York. My parents (for job opportunities) moved the family to Rochester when I was six. During high school I loved all things out-of-doors, and kept a journal of poetry and travel experiences. My journalism teacher asked me to edit the high school literary magazine. I wrote stories for local travel magazines, and loved languages and travel.



NEW BRANCH MEMBER

Financial restrictions found me living at home, so I chose to attend Rochester Institute of Technology. I graduated with Honors as the only women student in Printing/Publishing program, receiving my Associates Degree in Applied Sciences, Graphic Arts & Photography in 1970. My mother encouraged me to continue my pursuit of a degree, so I found full time work at a local Photography Studio, to make money to do so. In the meantime I received a scholarship to enroll in English Lit. department at East Carolina University in Greenville, North Carolina. While there, I published my first anthology.

I returned to Rochester for a Christmas break, met up again with the man I worked with at the Photo studio, and was married in 1972. It was to be 30 years later that I received my Bachelor of Arts Degree. The years in-between found me moving across the country to Oregon, raising a family, and starting my own business while travelling the globe with "Weiss & Patricia's World of Magic." Settling in Portland, after 25 years of magical globe trotting, the voice of education still called me, and I enrolled in Adult Continuing Education program at Linfield College in McMinnville, I received my Bachelor of Arts Degree the year before my daughter received her Master's Degree from University of Irvine.

Indeed, my parents wove threads of education into my tapestry!

CANCELLED

2020 HOE DOWN Bayer Family Estates



We have had to cancel the AAUW Medford Hoedown this year due to circumstances that we could not control.

Thank you to the members who had stepped forward to help us. We would encourage our members to help out with future fundraisers.

Jan Purkeypile & Sharon Shatswell, Co-Chairs
AAUW Medford Hoedown 2020



CELEBRATING APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 7 Lillian Eaton Stewart | 14 Pat Stoddard |
| 11 Anne Billeter | 19 Carolyn Chamberlain |
| 13 Pat Collins | 28 Cathy deWolfe |
| 14 Sharon Fox | |

Queen Elizabeth

April 21, 1926

At 94, Queen Elizabeth has been Great Britain's royal head of state since 1952, ascending to the throne when her father, King George VI, died while she was on a state visit to Kenya. Her long reign has seen great successes and not a few challenging times, the latter including 1992, the year she dubbed "*annus horribilis*," as it saw the collapse of the marriages of three of her four children and a devastating fire at Windsor Castle. (2020 might turn out to be another "*annus horribilis*" for her... The Windsor family is going through some family issues, we hear.)



Now in the 68th year of her reign, Elizabeth is the longest-reigning monarch in British history, surpassing the tenure of her great-great-grandmother, Queen Victoria, who reigned for 65 years. Elizabeth's husband, Prince Phillip, is also a direct descendant of Victoria, so he and Elizabeth are third cousins.

FUN FACT: While Elizabeth has traveled internationally very extensively, she has never had a passport.

And despite her birth in April, the Queen's birthday is celebrated in Great Britain each year in June. The very practical Brits want to be assured of pleasant weather for the festivities.

Annual Garden Tour

by Marlene Olson



I want to update our members on the status of the **2020 Garden Tour**. As I write this on March 15, we plan to have the Tour on **Saturday, June 13**. The Garden Tour steering committee has been busy with their assignments: getting the Tour booklet and collateral materials (bookmarks, tickets, etc.) prepared for print, locating garden coordinators and greeters, establishing the publicity, and generally following our timeline of duties.

Due to the corona virus, the Jackson County Master Gardener's Spring Fair has been cancelled and our Garden Tour planning meetings are by email or texting. The opportunities to sell tickets this spring will be limited but we feel when life returns to "normalcy" our membership will strongly support the Garden Tour and continue our amazing tradition of providing college scholarships to local women and girls.

Southern Oregon KidSpree 2020 SATURDAY, AUGUST 8

by Valerie Barr & Ellen Jones



AAUW joins JC Penney and community organizations, including Soroptimists, Medford and Ashland Rotaries and Medford Kiwanis, to provide economically disadvantaged school-age children throughout Jackson County with approximately \$125 credit to purchase back-to-school clothing. Each child also receives breakfast and a backpack with school and dental supplies.

KidSpree 2020 is coming on **Saturday, August 8th, 7 to 9 a.m.** Mark your calendar... We'll need plenty of volunteers!

FUN WITH FRIENDS

AAUW INTEREST GROUPS

During the uncertain times associated with the coronavirus pandemic, regularly scheduled gatherings of many social groups are suspended. If you are a member of any of our Interest Groups, please contact the person listed below with your group's entry for the latest updates about your group's plans.

WINE & WHINE

Jan Purkeypile



janpurkeypile@yahoo.com

LUNCH BUNCH

Mary Fowler



mlfowler 1951@gmail.com

DINE (Dinner Is Never Enough)

JULEK'S POLISH KITCHEN

April 23, 2020

CANCELLED

Joan Rycraft jrycraft@charter.net

OUT & ABOUT CALENDAR 2020



Contact: Janet Brougher

jjbrougher@gmail.com

DESSERT BRIDGE

Pat Stoddard

We will meet at the home of Mae Boren, Wednesday, **April 1st** at 12:30.

We will cancel if some don't feel comfortable playing.

Please let Mae know if you cannot attend. Contact Pat Stoddard if you are interested in playing party bridge.



Phone Pat: 541 890-3828.

BOOK LOVERS

MORNING BOOK GROUP

Mary Wright Gillespie

We will meet on Wednesday, **April 22**, at 10:00 am in the Chetco Room of Skyline Plaza.

Jackie Baker will lead the discussion on *"The Widows of Malabar Hill"* by Sujata Massey.

Contact: **Mary at 541 857-6083** or **Sharon Purkerson, 541 857-6513.**

HAPPY BOOKERS

Contact: Patty Finch



We will meet on Tuesday, April 21 at 1:30 pm at Mary Fowler's home. Tricia Wood will lead the discussion of *The Huntress* by Kate Quinn.

Questions? Please contact **Patty at talkingwolf.pf@gmail.com.**



MURDER MOST LITERARY

Mary Wright Gillespie

Our group will meet on Thursday, **April 9**, at 7:00 pm in the Chetco Room at Skyline Plaza.

Anne Newins has prepared a bibliography on Mysteries and Travel and will lead the discussion.

Contact: Mary at 541 857-6083 .

HOME ALONE? A HAPPY COINCIDENCE: 450 EPISODES OF "LAW & ORDER" ARE SHOWING FOR BINGE-WATCHING!

PUBLIC POLICY

by Gayle Clason, Public Policy Chair

With much TV and news coverage of the upcoming 2020 Presidential election, it highlights the right (and privilege) of every citizen to participate by voting. **Are you registered?**

Not sure? Check the website:

www.dmv.org/or-oregon/id-cards.php.

If you need to update your registration, you must provide any **CHANGES**

to:

NAME

ADDRESS

PARTY AFFILIATION

IMPORTANT: You have ONLY until APRIL 28th to make changes.

Remember: To vote in Oregon, you must be a citizen, aged 18 years or older, live in this state and have an Oregon driver's license or ID card. (available at the DMV).

Registration may be done on line at the Oregon State web site:

<https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/updatevoterregistration.aspx>

A voter can choose to complete a paper voter registration form, also, and submit it to a county elections office to update their information. You can find a voter registration card at a post office, library or county elections office. You can also ask your County Elections Office or the Oregon Elections Division to mail you a card.

Remember, you may — as a private citizen — endorse candidates for partisan elective office and contribute money or anything of value to a campaign but you may **NOT** use the name of AAUW when doing so.



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DON'T FORGET ME... I'm always here!
I'M YOUR LOCAL AAUW WEBSITE:
medford-or.aauw.net

Stay informed!

Webmaster: Jean Foley



MEDFORD AAUW

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