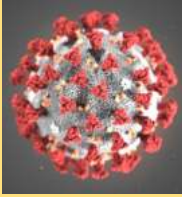


We hoped it would be in the rear-view mirror by now, but Co-Vid 19 is STILL with us.



The situation continues to call for creative approaches...

## AUTUMN MEETINGS

Restrictions associated with the continuing pandemic will require our holding General Meetings and Board Meetings remotely, via Zoom.

Please note dates and times on your calendars. We will send the Zoom link in an eBlast well before each meeting.

### GENERAL MEETINGS

Thursday, October 8 7 pm

Thursday, November 12 7 pm

### QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING

Thursday, October 22 7 pm

**ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED!**

*If you need help with accessing Zoom, please contact the Musings Editor the first week in the month to be put in touch with a branch member who can help.*



It's easy to  
**KEEP INFORMED**

Sign up for AAUW's  
**2-MINUTE ACTIVIST** at  
[www.aauw.org/Two-minute](http://www.aauw.org/Two-minute).

## AAUW MISSION

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

## President's Message *by Carol Koszyk*

On August 26th, five of our Medford AAUW Branch members participated in the "Chalk the Vote" activity developed by the Oregon Women's History Consortium and the Oregon Historical Society to highlight the huge struggle that many Americans have had to be able to vote. It was originally planned for us to use chalk to write on city sidewalks the text of the Constitutional Amendments that gave US Citizens the right to vote. When the City of Medford did not want chalk on the sidewalk, we "got creative." (See associated article on page 3.)



Important Reminders — The year 2020 marks:

- The 150th anniversary of the 15th Amendment (removed race, color or prior servitude from denying voting rights)
- The 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment (removed sex from denying voting rights)
- The 56th anniversary of the 24th Amendment (ended the poll tax)
- The 55th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act (prohibited racial discrimination in voting)
- The 49th anniversary of the 26th Amendment: right to vote cannot be denied on account of age for those 18 or older (This amendment has roots in an Oregon legal case, *Oregon v. Mitchell*, 1970)

Together, these five legislative remedies extended the right to vote/suffrage/the franchise to vast numbers of citizens who had previously been denied full citizenship. Each of these pieces of legislation righted previous wrongs by adding new voices to the governance of our nation, and moved us closer to the stated equality laid out in our nation's founding documents.

## *In Our Thoughts*

During the month, we sent good wishes to **Robin Smith** as she recovered from oral surgery.

And our hearts go out to our members, friends and neighbors who have been threatened recently by frightening wildfires and to all the families who suffered dreadful loss of life and property.

Contact Camille Korsmo with notes for *In Our Thoughts*.



# MELODIES & HISTORY

Our September General Meeting was highlighted by a program of songs by troubadour **Dave Gordon**. A singer and raconteur, Dave accompanied his often familiar tunes with stories about the origins and historical impact of many of their lyrics. Thanks to **Robin Smith** of the Program Committee for arranging this enjoyable program for our meeting via Zoom.



President **Carol Koszyk** led the meeting that was managed by our new member (and this month's **Spotlight**) **Tanya McHenry**. During the following business meeting, attending members voted unanimously to approve the expenditure of \$15/month for a Zoom account that



will permit branch Interest Groups, committees and others to hold meetings using the branch account. Look for more information on the use of this account in upcoming eBlasts.

## COMING SOON



*Our AAUW October Meeting via Zoom will...*

## CELEBRATE WOMEN!

*Arranged by Gayle Clason, Program Committee*

On Thursday, **October 8th**, beginning at 7pm, **Maureen Flanagan Battistella** will share information about the Rogue Valley Women's Movement. As we celebrate the Year of the Woman and the Centennial of Women's Suffrage, we will learn about women, places, and politics in our region through interviews, photographs, and historical records. **DON'T MISS THIS MEDFORD BRANCH EVENT ON ZOOM!**



*On **November 12**, we will enjoy seeing and hearing from some of the very special ladies who received **AAUW Scholarships** in 2020 (and perhaps in earlier years). Tune in at 7 pm via Zoom for this special program!*

# PUBLIC POLICY

*by Gayle Clason, Public Policy Chair*

**2020:** What a year this has been... with Covid-19, local fires and devastation and now the important election coming soon. In midst of it all, there are a few things that might be left to do: If you have changed your name, your political party or if you had to relocate, have you updated your voter registration? Do you know of others who might need to handle this important action? Please pass along information about updating their voter registration in time for your friends and acquaintances to be included in the November 3 election. **Changes must be made before Oct 13<sup>th</sup>!**

It is important to have a **mailing address** to receive your ballot! You can check on-line Oregon Registration and follow the directions (easiest). No computer? The public libraries have them for public use. Or you can go to the Jackson County Elections Office, 1101 W Main Street, Suite 201, in Medford. Blank forms are available there on a rack.

The ballots should be sent to your address on or before October 20<sup>th</sup>.



Follow the **DIRECTIONS** on the ballot, and **SIGN THE ENVELOPE**.

This year with all of the postal delays, it is important to **VOTE EARLY!** MAIL EARLY or deliver your ballot to one of these designated ballot boxes before 8 pm on Election Day:

- 205 S Central Ave, Medford
- 1101 W Main St, Medford
- 116 S 3RD St, Central Point
- 510 W 1st St, Phoenix

## EVERY VOTE COUNTS!

*BTW...Thinking of endorsing a candidate? Speak as an individual, not as an AAUW member if it is a partisan race. As a 501(c)3 non-profit group, AAUW is apolitical.*

# 100 YEARS (and counting...)

## 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States

The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.

Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.



## CELEBRATING (LOTS OF) OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS!

7 Carol James

10 Bonnie Goldfein

10 Charlotte Park

11 Mary Fowler

12 Kit Nilles

12 Robin Smith

16 Anna Burke

25 Sharon Purkerson

30 Janet Brougher

31 Donna Wallender



Ellen Jones, Carol Koszyk, Monica Weyhe, Judie Salter and Sandy Heath welcomed City Council member Kevin Stine during our branch's public observance of the **19th Amendment** Centennial Anniversary.

August 26th, 2020 marked 100 years since the enactment of the **19th Amendment** to our nation's **Constitution**, which gave women the vote. When our planned "Chalk the Walk" event on the anniversary was not possible, our very resourceful ladies made the most of "Plan B," providing the text of the **Amendment** and explanatory flyers for passersby at Vogel Park in downtown Medford.



## Remembered with Gratitude



**RUTH BADER GINSBURG**

1933-2020

# FUN WITH FRIENDS

## 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 may contact one of the group contacts at any time or Therese Stevens, Interest Groups/ACT Chairperson, for more information.

### BOOK GROUPS



#### Happy Bookers

We meet at a member's home the third Wednesday of the month at 2:30 PM for discussion of the book chosen for that month and for good conversation! January is a time of sharing food and a book exchange, and in June we have a potluck lunch to choose books for the coming year. For information, contact **Therese Stevens**, (541-601-0101).

#### Morning Book Group

This group meets for one hour on the fourth Wednesday of the month in the Chetco Room of Skyline Plaza at 10:00 AM. Books are selected by vote in May and include both fiction and non-fiction. In June, members choose the date and book they want to review. Discussions are always lively! In December we have a feast and exchange books for fun. Contact **Mary Wright Gillespie** (541-857-6083) or **Sharon Purkerson** (541-857-6513).

#### Murder Most Literary

This is a book group for those who love to read mysteries. A theme is selected for the month and the person in charge prepares a bibliography. At the meeting, after an initial discussion of the topic, each person reviews her book with an emphasis on style (without giving away the plot), and she shares if the book is worth reading. The group meets on the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM in the Chetco Room of Skyline Plaza. Contact **Mary Wright Gillespie** (541-857-6083).

### Great Decisions

Our group encourages discussion and debate of the important global challenges of our time. While we are **not a book group**, we base our discussions on the study book and DVD presentation published for each topic by the Foreign Policy Association. We meet 8 times a year on the 3rd Saturday of the month from 9:30 – 11:30 AM at the Rogue Valley Manor. Contact **Janice Williams** (541-857-6300) or email at [janice.m.williams@gmail.com](mailto:janice.m.williams@gmail.com).



### WINE & WHINE

The **Wine and Whine** group meets once a month, usually on a Friday at 2:00PM, depending on the availability of each winery. All participants have input as to which wineries they would like to visit. Get ready for a relaxed environment with good friends and good wine. The only requirement is that you RSVP, so proper reservations can be made. For information about our next vineyard visit, contact **Jan Purkeypile** 541-621-4916.



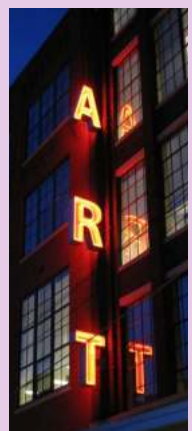
### ACT (AAUW Community Team)



We are a group of 10-15 women who work on short-term community projects, usually for a few hours only. Events planned all are worthwhile tasks that put AAUW in the public eye and generate new members. Currently, due to the Pandemic, ACT is asking members to send checks to support two organizations: **Maslow Project**, P.O. Box 999 Medford, OR 97501 and **Rogue Retreat**, 711 E. Main St. #25 Medford, OR 97504 Contact **Therese Stevens** (541-601-0101).

### OUT & ABOUT

We get together about once a month to attend a community activity (e.g. theatre, art shows, music and other events). Anyone may suggest an outing. Activities are usually announced in advance in the *Musings*, and an email contact list is maintained. All are welcome to attend any event. Contact **Janet Brougher**, (home 541-857-2862, cell 541-326-1767) or email at [jjbrougher@gmail.com](mailto:jjbrougher@gmail.com).



# FUN, continued

## DINE (Dinner Is Never Enough)

Good friends, laughter and wine enhance the experience. Normally, we meet at a different restaurant at 6 PM the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month, except November (skip) and December (date moves).



Reservations are required by Monday of that week. Contact **Therese Stevens** (541-601-0101).

## LUNCH BUNCH

We are a congenial group of ladies who like to go out for lunch! We meet on the second Tuesday of each month at a different, local restaurant.



Venue is decided at the previous lunch by the group, and the bill is always handled as separate checks. We typically meet at the restaurant at 11:30 am, but we have ventured outside of Medford via carpools as well. RSVP's via email to **Mary Fowler** at [mlfowler1951@gmail.com](mailto:mlfowler1951@gmail.com)

## GAMES

**DESSERT BRIDGE** Normally, we meet the first Wednesday each month at 12:30 pm for dessert and “party” bridge in members’ homes. Players also have the option to plan a “no host” lunch at a restaurant before we play, in which case we meet at the venue at 11:30 am. Contact **Pat Stoddard** (541-890-3828) or email [patstoddard@gmail.com](mailto:patstoddard@gmail.com).



**MAH JONG** We meet the second and fourth Mondays of each month to play a version of American-Far East style Mah Jong. We do not use cards for hands. **Joyce Ellis**, one of our members, has taught the game for years to many groups, and we are fortunate to have her coaching us. We meet at the Quail’s Nest Bistro at the Manor at 1:30 PM and play from 2 to 4 PM. Everyone is welcome. Contact **Jackie Baker** at 541-857-6849.



## SPOTLIGHT

### TANYA McHENRY

I have lived in the Rogue Valley most of the time since high school, with only a short time away — spending half a year in Japan and living briefly in Eugene. After graduating from Southern Oregon University with a degree in Economics and a Certificate in Finance, I experienced hardship during the 2008-2009 recession, eventually finding employment in the healthcare industry for here in the Valley. Later I was able to move to a remote position with my current employer, UCLA Health.



New Branch Member Tanya

My favorite interests involve computers (including building them), gaming (board, card and electronic games), movies, television and water-based activities. For me, it’s difficult to choose between floating down a lazy river, throwing on a headset to play a favorite game with my friends or family online, or pulling out one of the 80 or so board games I enjoy playing with the same friends and family. Does this sound lazy? Actually, It’s not: We’re off to the river at sun-up, back home for board games early evening, and then it’s online games late into the night!

Since Information Technology in general and electronic and board games in particular are heavily dominated by men, there is very little outreach to women and girls. I want to support the women and girls already involved in IT and gaming and find ways to give other young women and girls a chance to enter the male-dominated gaming fields and the IT industry. I appreciate the millions of women who have been, are now, and/or will continue to be supportive of women entering fields that often lack diversity!

BTW, I have an identical twin who lives in New Jersey. If you see her when she visits, you might think she’s me!

## NEW INTERESTS?

On pages 4 & 5 of this *Musings*, you can find updates and schedules for our current Interest Groups. But there's always room for more! So...

### How about forming a new group?

With enough members signed up, we can get a group up and running. One "new" group that some members have suggested is:

#### OUT-OF-DOORS: Garden Joy



This is a group for gardening enthusiasts who want to (1) learn new gardening tips, (2) hear speakers on topics related to gardening and (3) take field trips to nurseries, private gardens and associated businesses.

For more information about getting this group re-started, please contact **Barbara Basden** (541-499-8589) or **Marlene Olson** (541-821-8129).

Another suggested group is:

#### OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

This group is a low-key outdoor adventure group where we explore Southern Oregon in a variety of ways. Hiking is one of the main activities. We want to include some winter activities, including snow-shoeing and cross-country skiing. Activity, day, times and places will vary. Contact **Jan Purkeypale** (541-621-4916).



If you have a suggestion about Interest Groups, email [tmstevens56@gmail.com](mailto:tmstevens56@gmail.com) or call **Therese Stevens** (541-601-0101).

### 2020-2021 is calling...

If you haven't yet renewed your AAUW membership, please do it today, Our Medford Branch needs you! Send your \$90 check and the Continuing Membership form to our P.O. Address. (Our Helping Hands program can assist with up to half of the \$90. Information is on our website.)



**DON'T FORGET ME... I'm always here!**  
**I'M YOUR LOCAL AAUW WEBSITE:**  
**[medford-or.aauw.net](http://medford-or.aauw.net)**

**Stay informed!**  
**Webmaster: Jean Foley**



### MEDFORD LEADERSHIP TEAM

**President Carol Koszyk**  
541 608-7799 [thekoszyks@msn.com](mailto:thekoszyks@msn.com)

**Finance VP Carol Julian**

**Membership Co-VPs**  
**Sandy Heath** (503) 701-2644  
**Ellen Jones** (209) 756-3202

**Program Committee**  
**Gayle Clason, Camille Korsmo,**  
**Loretta Sias, Robin Smith**

**Secretaries**  
**Janet Brougher**  
**Cathy deWolfe**

**MUWCF Liaison to Branch**  
**Patty Finch**

**AAUW Funds Mary Wright Gillespie**  
**Communications Director**  
**Monica Weyhe**  
**Interest Groups/ACT Chair**  
**Therese Stevens**  
**Public Policy Chair Gayle Clason**  
**Scholarship Liaison Tanya McHenry**  
**S.T.E.M. Director Yvette McCulley**

### MEDFORD UNIVERSITY WOMEN CHARITABLE FUND (MUWCF)

**President Paulette Avery**

**Musings Editor Bonnie Goldfein**  
**541 295-9361**



**MEDFORD AAUW**

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**MEDFORD, OR 97501**