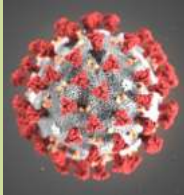


Co-Vid 19 is STILL with us.



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, November 12 7 pm
Tuesday, December 8 7 pm

*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.*

AAUW MISSION

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

President's Message *by Carol Koszyk*

The events of these past few months have resulted in huge changes for us all. Besides all the physical distancing with Covid, the fires have left us almost in shock, and for some, with devastation. In my family, we now have a plan for evacuating, and an accurate list of what we will take with us. I am asking that all of us members keep reaching out to one another. This is a way to help, and please know that you can always call me.

That somber beginning noted, I am slowly getting more positive about our new Covid way to interact via Zoom. Our October General Meeting Program was quite excellent. Maureen Flanagan Battistella was very informative about our Rogue Valley and the State of Oregon's progress with regard to women's issues. Maureen is now also planning to interview one of our Medford Branch members to augment her research. We will keep you posted. Who knows? This could be a possible future Program for our Meetings.

By now you have gotten the word that the Medford Branch Zoom Account (approved by unanimous vote during the business meeting after our September General Meeting Program) was purchased. We are so thankful that Vikki Piper has volunteered to be our Host contact person. Whenever any group wants to schedule a Zoom meeting - just email Vikki at vpiper@sti.net with the Meeting Name, Date, Time and Duration. Vikki will then set it up and send you the Meeting ID and password for you to forward to your group! Thank you, Vikki, for helping us all to step into the 21st century in this way.

Finally, I want to thank every person in our AAUW family who has volunteered. Our Medford Branch only exists due to your help, and I am extremely appreciative for each one of you. You are the Good People of the World.



LAST-MINUTE ZOOM ALERT! On **Wednesday, OCTOBER 28** at 7:00 p.m., tune into this special presentation in the Oregon AAUW Learning Series for 2020-2021. The speaker will be **Dr. Markisha Smith**, EdD, Director of the Portland Office of Equity and Human Rights. Her work is specifically focused on best practices in equity, diversity, and inclusion, culturally responsive practices and closing opportunity/access/belief gaps for historically and currently marginalized groups. For the link, contact **Nancy Brown, Events Coordinator, at coachnancy@comcast.net.**

CELEBRATING WOMEN!

At our October General Meeting on ZOOM, we enjoyed a very informative presentation by **Maureen Flanagan Battistella** about the historical and current progress of women's issues in the Rogue Valley and the State of Oregon. What a perfect way to celebrate the **Year of the Woman** and the **Centennial of Women's Suffrage!**



PUBLIC POLICY

by Gayle Clason, Public Policy Chair

Exercise Your Rights It's Voting Time!

It is time to choose policy makers locally, statewide and nationally, as well as to choose options for statewide ballot measures. The **2020 Voters Pamphlet** is thick, so time is short to do your voting homework. Select the pages which apply to your jurisdiction to cut down the assignment. Read the summaries, those who approve or object to the person or measure. AAUW is non-partisan, so choose the candidates and measures that offer programs and support that match your own beliefs. *(Gayle's CliffsNotes: Read the summaries, check to see who supports or opposes candidates and measures and why.)*



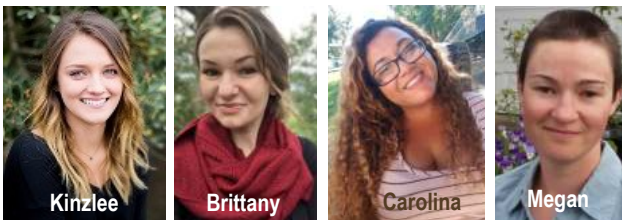
NOVEMBER 12, 7 PM

Our Medford AAUW Branch had raised sufficient funds last spring to award scholarships of **\$2,100** to each of eight local women college students. Traditional scholarships went to SOU students **Madison Hamilton** and **Alisa Whitney** and to RCC students **Jaime Cortez-Ludwig**, **Carolina Calderon Martinez**,

Brittany Gladd, **Kinzlee Jordan** and **Montana Stephens**. A technical scholarship went to **Megan Capp**, who attends RCC's Table Rock campus. Our branch hoped to introduce these students and have them share their stories at our luncheon last May, but Covid-19 restrictions made us cancel this special annual event.

The spring and fall terms have been challenging for students of all ages, including our scholarship winners. At the **November 12th "Meet Our Scholarship Winners"** meeting we will hear from several of "our" students in person (on Zoom) about how their pursuit of higher education is going.

SPECIAL NOTE: Since we were not able to hold a luncheon in their honor last May, we are asking for angel contributions to thank our speakers. *(See BOX at right.)*



If you are able to help, make out your \$10 check to **Medford AAUW** and mail it by **November 6th** to Mary Wright Gillespie, 2127 Quail Point Circle, Medford, OR 97504.
THANK YOU!



Oregonians have confidence in the vote-by-mail process. **VOTE EARLY!** Remember... **Sign the envelope** to ensure faster counting of ballots. And keep in mind that **Postmarks do not count!** If you mail your ballot, it must be sent by **Tuesday, October 27**. If you would rather use **Official Drop Box locations**, here are your choices for Jackson County Elections: 1101 W. Main Street and **libraries** in Ashland, Central Point, Eagle Point, Medford, Phoenix and Rogue River. *(Thankfully, the libraries were safe during the recent local fires.)*

AAUW FUNDS

by Mary Wright Gillespie, AAUW Funds Chair

The battle for equity has never been more vital. The emphasis for graduate work has always been a strong element in the AAUW organization. **Maureen Flanagan Battistella** told us in her presentation on the Rogue Valley Women's Movement that there was a secret society for women faculty at Southern Oregon University whose members mentored and encouraged women to work towards their PhD. Many of these women held leadership positions in local and state AAUW branches and were strong advocates for women in higher education, one of AAUW's founding values. Battistella's research on the United Foundation Trust and its highest honor, the Order of the Purple Girdle, active from 1958 through 1979, will be published in a forthcoming issue of *Oregon Historical Quarterly*.

AAUW Funds covers all the projects supported at the national level including fellowships and grants for graduate study. AAUW Funds also supports other projects including one for research and one to help with legal costs in cases of gender bias in the workplace. Review additional information on the AAUW.Org website. More than ever we depend on individual contributions to keep this going.

Everything is different this year and new ideas are being tried. One new option that will be available in 2021 is that the **Phantom Tea Party** will include an opportunity to give to AAUW Funds, as well as to fund local scholarships. If you would like your donation to go to AAUW Funds this year, on the Memo line of your Phantom Tea Party check, write "#4336 Fund." (It's the fund for Education and Training.)

In 2020 to date, our branch has given **\$5,190** to **AAUW Funds**. Please consider adding your 2020 contribution before the year ends.

Thank you.



CELEBRATING NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS!

- 5 Marcia Simon
- 9 Steve Corelis
- 10 Monica Weyhe
- 14 Lynda Hansen
- 19 Paulette Avery
- 21 Joan Johnson
- 23 Pat Dege
- 24 Sherry Schroeder
- 30 Jane Davie
- 30 Joan Rycraft



It's easy to
KEEP INFORMED

Sign up for AAUW's
2-MINUTE ACTIVIST at
www.aauw.org/Two-minute.



TRAGEDY CLOSE TO US

by Jan Purkeypile

Simple Machine Winery has been run by a delightful young couple, Brian Dinner and Clea Arthur. 2020 has been especially tragic for Clea, as she lost her mother this year. Then their tasting room in Talent and every barrel, bottle and all pieces of equipment were destroyed in the Alameda fire.

Brian and Clea contributed generously to our **2019 Hoedown** and were on board to contribute again to the 2020 Hoedown (before we had to cancel the event). Since they have supported our AAUW branch so unselfishly, I would like us to return that support in whatever way members can provide.

Although they are truly devastated by their loss, Brian and Clea say they will rebuild. One way to help them is by joining the **Simple Machine AF (“After Fire”) Wine Club**. When you join, you are *pre-purchasing* future wines, including white wines and the winery’s first-ever rose, all available in 2021. Full details are available on their website: simplemachinewine.com.



BEFORE (Tasting Room)



AFTER (Wine Storage)

COMING SOON



TUESDAY,
DECEMBER 8, at 7 pm

Our General Meeting
will feature

Carolyn Kingsnorth
of the
Jacksonville Historical
Society, who will tell us
about early Holiday
traditions and customs in
our area.

Plan to ZOOM in!





by Yvette McCulley, S.T.E.M. Director

The AAUW Medford Branch S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) Committee has begun meeting and planning activities for 2020-2021. If you are interested in being a part of the group, please contact me at yvette@abie.us.

The committee has decided to partner with **Kid Time Children's Museum** and **The Ivy School** (preschool) again this year. The museum has moved to their new location at 413 West Main Street (the old library). If you are interested in volunteering time (and/or donating materials for STEM projects (donation list below), contact Kristi Reynolds at kristi@kid-time.org. (See the *Volunteer Opportunities & Donations List*, below.) If you need someone to pick up donations, please contact me (Yvette). We are working on other partnership opportunities within the museum as well as new partnerships for this year. Please watch for details.

KID TIME Volunteer Opportunities

CALLING GARDENERS & NON-GARDENERS!

We need help taking care of the wonderful outdoor space. Come by and spend some time trimming roses, pulling some pesky weeds or helping with other needed grounds care. Timing is flexible and we can work with your schedule. Bring tools or we can provide them.

Donations List

- Pumpkins, gourds, squash — all sizes — for the classroom & decorating outdoor space for fall
- Towels (all sizes, new or used — will be used to clean spaces & toys
- Camp chairs (new or gently used)
- Spring bulbs — tulips, hyacinths, daffodils. We'll plant them in January.
- OLD keyboards, calculators, adding machines, typewriters or other old tech materials for the kids to take apart (NO SMART PHONES)
- Pinecones (sugar pine or ponderosa) for crafts and making bird feeder cones. Also for decorating outdoor spaces.



MEMBERS MATTER

by Sandy Heath & Ellen Jones

As your Membership V/Ps, we are looking for ways to attract new members as we also keep in touch with our current members. We rely on Zoom to handle our meetings and Interest Groups, which is a good option, but it limits the personal contact of members with members. We have begun sending birthday and other greeting cards to members, and we recently reached out to nearly 50 Jackson County "Members-at-Large" — who may belong to National AAUW but aren't affiliated with a local branch — so they may consider joining us.

But we need your help! We currently have 88 paid members and 8 scholarship members. Your ideas and suggestions for effective ways to reach out to our membership and attract new members are welcome! Please contact Ellen at emjones57@gmail.com or Sandy at sgheath2@outlook.com.

COPING WITH 2020

We hear that our members have been making the best of isolation & restrictions, with Interest Groups meeting outside (with Social Distancing) or via Zoom, but everyone is looking forward to resuming "normal life" in 2021.

GETAWAY IDEA: Recently, Tex & I took a 6-day excursion on Amtrak from Portland to Chicago, then from Chicago to San Francisco (through Colorado & Utah) and back up to Portland. We had private sleeping rooms with toilet/shower and everyone wore masks in common areas, so we felt pretty safe. And the scenery was simply GORGEOUS! Call me if you want to learn more.

Bonnie

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

Murder Most Literary

We will have a **ZOOM meeting Thursday, November 5 at 7:00 pm.**

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. **Contact Mary Wright Gillespie (541-857-6083) or Camille Korsmo (541-858-4100).**



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).**

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.



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 Purkeypille 541-621-4916.**



NEW!

AAUW Social Club

The only thing you need is a way to **get on Zoom** and a beverage of your choice! It is perfectly matched to Covid – no need to wear a mask!

You are invited to join our next gathering on **November 10th at 4 pm** to just talk, listen and get to know each other better. Looking forward to seeing you!



For info:

Contact **Carol Koszyk** at 541-608-7799.

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, (541-857-2862 or 541-326-1767)** or email: jjbtougher@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 4th 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

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.



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.



from Carol Koszyk

Our Medford AAUW Branch has purchased a **Zoom Account** for all of us to use for our Group Activities.

Vikki Piper, our Zoom Contact Person, will schedule meetings. Please email her at vpiper@sti.net with this information:

- Meeting name (Board Meeting, Committee, Happy Bookers...)
- Meeting date
- Meeting time
- Meeting duration
- Recurring meeting? ("Meets first Tuesday at 2 pm," etc.)

Vikki will set up the meeting and then email you with the meeting ID and password. You can then forward the information to your group.



ACT UPDATE

by Loretta Sias

TIRED OF SMOKY AIR AND WEARING MASKS?

For most of us, the answer's a resounding "YES!", but I'm thankful for not getting the virus or losing my home to fire!" But for some, smoky air and mask-wearing is the least of their problems.

We checked with the Maslow Project and found that **from September through the first week of October Maslow 's client list expanded dramatically, with 500 of the new clients affected by fires.** Maslow expects still more enrollees as word gets around about their services. **But when homeless youth need help** (the age range Maslow Project serves is from 0-21 and their families), **their basic needs are often very similar.**



Here are Maslow Project's most-needed items:

- * No-cook high protein snacks (peanut butter, tuna/salmon packets, Vienna sausage tins, Spam) & soup
- * Hand- & foot -warmers
- * New socks & underwear in a variety of styles & sizes
- * Hygiene products: deodorant, family-size shampoo & conditioner, toothpaste (kids too!), toothbrushes.
- * Feminine Hygiene products (pads, tampons, hygiene wipes)
- * Sleeping bags & tents/tarps
- * Raincoats/ponchos

If you would like to make a donation of some item(s), phone 541-608-6868 to arrange a drop-off time. Prefer to donate \$? Mail checks to: Maslow Project, PO Box 999, Medford, OR 97501, OR you can go directly to Maslow's website: www.maslowproject.com/donate.

SHARE IDEAS

by Sherry Schroeder



At this time of such distress in our local communities with COVID concerns, fire tragedies, etc., I would like to make a suggestion that could help you avoid becoming a victim of a scam. Often during times of stress,

we feel a great desire to assist in some way, often by contributing money to an organization that is helping the victims. Unfortunately, it makes it an excellent time for scamming to occur.

We are all touched by the devastating stories we see in the media, on Facebook, local stations, national news or in the newspapers. However, if you are thinking of making a donation (or if you already have), you might consider this:

Most charities and reputable non-profits are listed on **CHARITY NAVIGATOR**, an independent screening site of organizations. Try it by searching for **AAUW** and see how our non-profit is rated. ACCESS, RED CROSS, SALVATION ARMY, GOODWILL, UNITED WAY, etc., will all have ratings. The information will let you know how much of your donation goes for ADMIN, SALARIES, and OPERATIONS.

Usually, you will want to donate to those organizations that keep their administrative expenses low, so your dollars do the most good.

I hope you will use this website to check out all your charitable donations in the future. Stay safe and **keep sharing!**



MEDFORD LEADERSHIP TEAM

President **Carol Koszyk**
541 608-7799 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



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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