



Volume 48, Number 6

2021 Valentine



UPCOMING MEETINGS

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

GENERAL MEETINGS

Thursday, February 4 7 pm Saturday, March 6 10 am Thursday, April 1 7 pm Saturday, May 1* 10 am Thursday, June 3 7 pm

BOARD MEETINGS

Thursday, April 22 6 pm
All Branch members invited!

* This meeting replaces the usual Scholarship Luncheon.

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. **SEE PAGE 3**.

AAUW MISSION

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

President's Message

by Carol Koszyk

January 6th is still rolling around my head. As we get more infor-

mation about the people who participated in the deadly and horrific display of mayhem — it makes my resolve to improve my conduct even more important. We can take charge of our own behavior, and encourage others to elevate theirs by our personal example. Our first General Meeting of the year exemplified that. More than 30 of our members Zoomed as Director and Founder of the Maslow Project, Mary Ferrell, walked us through this impressive, positive results organization. Mary and the Maslow Project assist folks as they work



towards a better life in a sustainable way. (See more on page 2.) Partnering with them is a perfect fit for our AAUW mission.

We miss seeing some of our members that we used to see in person. Would you like to learn how to Zoom? We are aiming for every member to join our Zoom meetings, and **Valerie Barr** is offering to help us. Please see page 3 for details.

Last month, I asked for folks to volunteer for our Nominating Committee. I am so happy to report that **Sandy Heath**, **Ellen Jones** and **Judie Salter** answered the call: a huge "Thank You, Ladies!" Our bylaws say we need five people, so I am appealing to you all to give me a call. This job is accomplished in a few hours of time and will be scheduled for mid February. Please let me know that you want to help.

All the Committee Heads for last year's cancelled **2020 Garden Tour** will be meeting soon, to decide **IF** we will have the 2021 Garden
Tour. Yes — even though this fund raiser is CoVid Safe — we do need
a person to take on the job of the Garden Tour Coordinator. Working
on the Garden Tour is such a wonderful project! Please call me if you
have any questions about this. Maybe you are thinking about being a
"Co-Coordinator"?? Do you have a buddy that you enjoy working with?
Talk to each other and let me know. We are asking for your help.
Thank you, in advance.



Loretta Sias arranged for **Mary Ferrell** of The Maslow Project to fill us in on what this non-profit has been doing in and for our community for the last ten years and — even more significantly — throughout the 2020's pandemic and the September wildfires. At the outset of her Zoom presentation, Mary asked the 26 AAUW members present, "How many of you do not know about Maslow and what we do?" Only TWO hands went up — both very new members. Nevertheless, EVERYBODY was equally eager to hear and see Mary's presentation.

ZOOM

IMAGE

Some highlights:

- Mary Ferrell was educated in Medford. After graduating from SOU, she returned to Medford as the District's Homeless Program Coordinator, a position with NO job description and no mandate. The job amounted to finding out which students were homeless (defined as "children & teens with no fixed residence"). Nothing more.
- The Maslow Project was begun to fill the very large gap between knowing which kids are homeless and DOING something about it. The organization's very first community partner was **AAUW** and we have supported the work of Maslow ever since.
- In 2020, **one in ten** students in Medford was classified as homeless, with the number of homeless increasing significantly since the September fires. One main goal of Maslow's 19 staffers is to stabilize kids in school —a very tough task if the kids don't know if they'll eat today or where they'll sleep tonight. What's more, with schools closed during the pandemic, homeless kids living in the family car or couch-surfing often have no way to "plug in" to classes, causing them to fall farther and farther behind.
- Mary pointed out that many homeless families have nowhere to live through no fault of their own. She showed a video featuring the Sandoval family who were just becoming self-sufficient following rough times when their new Phoenix apartment burned to the ground, destroying the few possessions provided to them by Maslow and others. Even though his family was again homeless, Mike Sandoval and his family helped other displaced families at the Expo and spoke with sincere gratitude about his Maslow "Guardian Angel" Kristen who has "always been there for us."
- ♦ Maslow maintains over 100 mailboxes for homeless people, so they have an "address" where they can receive mail, ballots, food stamps, etc., and for documentation on job applications, driver's licenses, etc.

Thursday, February 4th at 7 pm



Traveling Judge

After **Patricia Crain** had practiced law in the Rogue Valley for 20 years, she was appointed by Gov. Kitzhaber to the Jackson County bench as a Circuit Court Judge in 1997. She served for 21 years, 10 years as Drug Court Judge. Since retiring in 2018, Judge Crain has served Oregon as substitute judge 7 weeks a year, allowing her to travel where she is needed in the state. She will talk about her experiences in many communities, especially about the effects CoVid has on court procedures.

The ZOOM link will be eBlasted to members a few days before the 4th.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Even though many volunteer opportunities are sadly limited or curtailed during the pandemic, you can still help Maslow do their work:

- DONATE MONEY or CARDS. (Temporary housing for a displaced family costs \$500/week!) Mail to: Maslow Project, PO Box 999, Medford, OR 97501
- Drop off * non-perishable FOOD and SOCKS, tampons, undies, deodorant/other hygiene, gloves.
- * Monday-Friday 9am-5pm. **CALL FIRST** so the freight box can be opened for you. **541 608-6868.**

A Crash Course in **ZOOM**

for AAUW Members

The first thing to know is that you cannot break either ZOOM or your computer by doing a wrong thing. But the BEST thing to know is that after you "do ZOOM" once, you'll feel your anxiety fade away, as you see just how great it is to SEE your friends again!

We want you to join us for our Medford AAUW Branch meetings on Zoom, because:

- We have arranged great programs we know you'll enjoy.
- We miss you and want to see your face again!

So here's what to do:

- Go to the really good YouTube video that explains "Zooming" step by step. It's called "A Cozy Grammar Guide to Joining a Zoom Meeting," (Search "Cozy Grammar"). You can stop the video, go back and see a step again if you like, until you feel comfortable. And Cozy Grammar (a real person) is delightful to watch!
- 2. Whether you get to watch the YouTube video or not, join Val Barr on Monday, February 1 at 7 pm for a "Members Only" Zoom practice session. Val will walk you through everything in real time. You can watch, participate, ask questions... whatever! I will send the link for this practice to you 2-3 days before Val's session (email from b.goldfein10@gmail.com).

We hope to see you at the next regular meeting via Zoom on February 4th. Judge Crain's presentation will be very interesting (and you could win Carol's raffle)!

ROGUE VALLEY MANOR STAFF KEPT US WELL

by Maria-Cristina Page (as printed in **The Mail Tribune**, December 27, 2020)

It is remarkable that we have been and still are all well. That is because of this amazing group of people taking care of us. We love our RVM Team.

People working at Rogue Valley Manor and at local nursing homes in this valley deserve to be named local heroes.

It is because of their dedication to their work that our beautiful Rogue Valley has not seen the devastation we have read affecting nursing homes in many other parts of the country.

I would like to honor as my local heroes every employee at Rogue Valley Manor who had been working hard to keep us residents healthy. We are around 970 people, from independent living to the most vulnerable, living at this campus.



It is remarkable that we have been and still are all well. That is because of this amazing group of people taking care of us. We love our RVM Team. They have inspired us with their dedication to making our lives inside campus pleasant and worry-free.

RVM has been proactive from the beginning. In late February [2020], our campus was closed to all nonessential visitors. When the Governor declared the state in lockdown, checkpoints were placed at the two main entries to campus. New safety protocols were placed in action, group activities were cancelled and we started isolation in our own units.

Employees were reassigned, some keeping the entire campus sanitized and clean at all times. Cleaning of individual units was done following safe protocols. Food was delivered to our doors every day; this was a huge new task, requiring logistics and coordination from food preparation to delivery.

Employees came day after day to their new work chores. Before their shifts, each one was screened and provided with mask and gloves to wear at all times while on the campus. Gardeners, cooks, cleaning/laundry personnel, food deliverers, technicians, janitors, maintenance workers — every single worker on the campus had to follow the same strict safety protocols, and we have not been aware of any complaints.

Every one of these my hero. Because of their dedication and hard work, we have stayed healthy and safe during this pandemic.

Advice to Cherish

This "Best Advice" column will be a continuing feature in *Musings*. Send in your story about Advice & the Advisor(s) and include an associated photo.



I share this photo of my Dad, one of my favorites!

As many of you know, my dad, John Mast, was a huge influence on my life. Just some of the things I know and love that he taught me: Learning to stand on your own two feet, appreciating the game of football, seeking an education (regardless of marital status), being committed to honesty and fairness, appreciating Nature and the world's beauty. And these are just a few of Dad's teachings during his 94 years. However, the advice I cherish most that he shared is this: "Happiness is not a

destination, but the journey along the way."

He once gave me a greeting card that included **5 Keys to Happiness**. That card sits on my desk to this day and I read it often. With acknowledgment that the words are from Blue Mountain Arts, I share them with you now:

- Realize that happiness is a choice...You can make the decision to "be happy" each day.
- Remember that happiness is contagious. Make someone smile, and the good feelings come right back to you.
- Be grateful for the little things in life that are free. Make a list, and add to it each morning.
- Believe that ultimately everything happens for a reason. Acceptance leads the way to happiness.
- Give away some courage every day! When you encourage another to "Keep going," "Hang in there," or "Believe in your dreams," you will find an unending source of happiness.

- Sherry Schroeder



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

Kid-Time Museum offers a big thankyou for the December donations and all the volunteer hours our Branch members have contributed. We are making a difference for the children of the Rogue Valley.

On May 22, 2021, we are sponsoring our first Rogue Valley Girls Rock STEM Expo. This event will take place from 9 am to noon at Kid-Time Museum (Note: They are changing their name to Children Museum of Southern Oregon). The event will be held outdoors and we will host 12 girls, ages 9-12. If you know a young girl who would be interested, please let me know so your guest will be included. We will open the registration to others in our community after we have AAUW member submissions first.



Kid-Time Museum is requesting the following **DONATIONS**: kids' cold-weather gloves; kids' rain boots (sizes 7-12); garden trowels, lawn games for kids up to age 10 (lawn darts, ring toss, etc.). Email me at yvette@abie.us if you need assistance with pickup or delivery.

If you are interested in joining the AAUW S.T.E.M. committee, contact me. It is never too late to join the fun! We have other projects in the works and could use your creative ideas and helping hands.



SATURDAY, MARCH 6 at 10 am

Joining us via ZOOM will be **Jessica Gomez**, the Founder, President and Chief Executive Officer of **Rogue Valley Microdevices**, the first Microelectronics Manufacturing Company in Southern Oregon.



THE RAVING

Once upon a February, while I sat in solitary, Watching many a YouTube satire and mysteries I've seen before, While I nodded, nearly napping, suddenly there came a tapping, As of someone gently rapping, rapping at my closed front door. 'Tis some visitor," I shouted, "tapping at my closed front door!" "This is what I've waited for!"

Ah, distinctly I remember-- it had been in last November The grandkids came to visit us and passed through that front door They were masked and sanitized then – pretty hard to recognize them – And hugs were banned, space organized, in ways we've never seen before "Is this worth it??" Grandma asked them, but I got to say no more... Both kids shouted, "Even more!"

Time went by all through December (not a Yule time to remember) Tree and parlor were adorned, the Christmas wreath upon the door The gifts and Christmas letter sent, and Christmas Day a Zoom event Still, all I felt was discontent with no one at my door. "When will life get back to normal... when we'll visit as before?" Quoth my outlook, "NEVERMORE!"

Yet now my front doorbell is ringing, and my sad heart starts in singing (Just knowing that a visitor is waiting at my door).

It's 2 o'clock and I'm in PJs, but folks aren't judging others these days We've all adopted new "at ease" ways. So now I'm opening the door. Alas, no visitor is waiting. I see what I have seen before:

A box from Amazon on the floor.

-Bonnie Goldfein



CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS!

7 Tricia Wood

8 Christine Bate

10 Ronnie Budge

15 Maria-Cristina Page

19 Trudy Bridgers

19 Regula Pepi

21 Tanya McHenry

24 Carol Julian

Loretta Sias

27 Janis Taft

APPLICATION READERS NEEDED!



AAUW Scholarships can help make this a reality for Please contact me women at RCC & SOU!

This important part of our AAUW annual Scholarship awards can be done online on your own time. A few hours in this month or March is all it takes. ASAP.

Tanya

mchenryta@gmail.com

Loss of Our Friend

Adele Berres Shimanoff

July 10, 1923 - January 1, 2021

On January 1, 2021, our dear friend **Adele Berres Shimanoff** passed away at the age of 97 in Ashland.

Born in Brooklyn, Adele attended college and worked as a secretary before enlisting in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1945. In 1947, she married Marine Corporal Morris S. "Jim" Shimanoff, and his career meant the couple moved

around the USA a lot, until his retirement in 1971 when they lived in Irvine, CA. This locale was a perfect opportunity for Adele: She enrolled at the University of California, earning a Bachelor of Art's Degree in 1977 and later a Master of Science degree from SOU, after the couple moved to Oregon. While living in Grants Pass, Adele and Jim raised miniature animals called "Adele's Adorables," and Adele was active in many community organizations and lively pastimes. She and Jim



were married for 58 years until Jim's passing in 2005. Adele and Jim are survived by three sons and a daughter, 11 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Adele was a Life Member of AAUW, member of the Women Marines Association and of the Marine Corps League. She held positions of leadership in all the organizations to which she belonged. She enjoyed baking, sewing, reading, doing crossword puzzles, using her computer, beading, watching *Jeopardy!* and clog dancing. She loved going on cruises and sailed around the world.

From Gayle Clason

Adele and I were friends. I met her when she was a Grants Pass member and Membership Chair of the Oregon AAUW Board. Since I also served on the Board, we traveled to many Board meetings (in person then) and State and National AAUW conventions together. Adele was generous to AAUW, fun-loving and a great party giver. I will miss her.

PUBLIC POLICY

by Gayle Clason, Public Policy Chair

As this is being written, news of rioters, an impeachment and inauguration seem to prevail in the headlines. This has been a disturbing period in U.S. history for all of us.

This is also the time of year that all the seed catalogues help gardeners look forward to warmer, brighter days with growth and enjoyment of what they nurture in plots: colorful flowers and plants, healthy fruits and vegetables, things which make life better! Just as any neglected garden can become weedy and out of control, our democracy must be tended to and nurtured to thrive. But have you become tired of hearing about the pandemic, election fraud, and news of the day, so you tune out the "noise?"

The mob invaded the Capitol building to disrupt the affirmation of the votes of the Electoral College to name Joe Biden the 46th President and Kamala Harris the first female Vice-President of the United States. "Does my vote count?" you may ask. Many, many times amendments concerning the Electoral College have been proposed. Most recently Congressman Steve Cohen (TN-09), the Chairman of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties, introduced a Joint Resolution to amend the Constitution by abolishing the Electoral College. "In the past 20 years, this archaic institution has twice awarded the Presidency to a candidate who did not win the popular vote, defeating the will of the American people. More than a century ago, we amended our Constitution to provide for the direct election of U.S. Senators and Representatives," stated Cohen. What is your opinion?

Our duty as citizens is to be informed, so we must pay attention to those who believe as we do and to those who support things we do not believe. We must tend the "democracy garden" to ensure that truth, justice, acceptance of others, tolerance and understanding can grow and flourish!

MEDFORD AAUW MEMBERS

It's easy to stay informed!





I was born and raised in Merced, California, one of five children. After graduating from Chico State University December 1977, I wanted to experience a big city, so I moved to San Francisco. After one year



working two jobs and still not having two cents to rub together, I decided to move back to the Central Valley.

I was hired by Bank of America for the management training program and was later promoted to Assistant Regional Training Officer at the Fresno Regional Office. I met my

husband Clark in Fresno and after getting married, we moved to Visalia.

When our oldest daughter was one year old, I decided I wanted to work part-time. I worked for the school district as a teacher's assistant and various other jobs that fit around our two girls' schedules.

Our oldest daughter Amber now has a doctorate in physical therapy and lives in Portland with her husband Joey. Our youngest daughter Alanna has a master's in counseling and also lives in Portland.

We had visited my father-in-law in Medford several times over the years and really enjoyed the weather and the beauty of Oregon. In 1995 we moved to Medford, where Clark starting working as a land use consultant. He presently owns a land use consulting firm in Medford.

I work for United Airlines as a Lead Agent at the Medford Airport. It can at times be very stressful, but I like the fast pace and not sitting at a computer all day. I enjoy traveling, reading (Hello, Happy Bookers!) and hiking.

PHANTOM TEA PARTY 2021

by Jackie Baker jackiebaker6849@gmail.com

Have you received your invitation to the **2021 PHANTOM TEA PARTY?** We

mailed all the invitations but we are hearing that some members have not received them. If you have not seen your invitation, please email me, so we can get an invitation off to you ASAP.



This year's Party goes

through March 31, and we've added a new "wrinkle" to your giving options (because the pandemic is limiting our fund-raising opportunities these days). If you want your Tea Party donation to go to fund local scholarships, as before, there is nothing new to do. However, if you would like your entire donation to go toward AAUW FUNDS, please write "AAUW Funds" on the memo line. If you want part of your donation to go for scholarships and part to go for AAUW Funds, please write two separate checks, with "AAUW Funds" on one check's memo line.

Thank you all for your support of our Branch's fund-raising through the Phantom Tea Party. Enjoy reading Camille Korsmo's wonderful words along with your cup of tea! (Thank you, Camille.)



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.

MURDER MOST LITERARY

Our Zoom meeting will be on **Thursday, February 11** at 7 pm. The subject will be **Scandinavian Mysteries** with a bibliography prepared by **Anne Newins**. Anne will lead the February discussion.

Contact **Mary Wright Gillespie** at 541-857-6083.





HAPPY BOOKERS

We will be meeting **February 17**th at 2:30 via ZOOM, discussing *The Giver of Stars* by Jo Jo Moyes. The discussion leader will be Robin Smith. If you have questions, please contact **Therese Stevens** at 541-601-0101 or tmstevens56@gmail.com.

AAUW SOCIALCLUB

The only thing you need is a way to **get on ZOOM** and have 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 **Tuesday**, **February 2** at **4 pm** to just talk, listen and get to know each other better. Looking forward to seeing you next time!



Contact Carol
Koszyk at
541 608-7799
to learn more.
(Pictured:
Judie Salter
with herbal tea.)

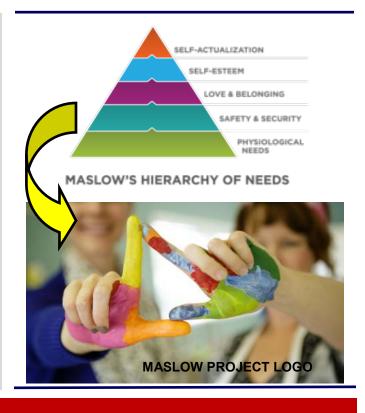
ACT UPDATE

WINTER IS HERE & IT'S COLD OUTSIDE!

Here again is the Maslow Project 's **LIST** of most-needed items for people who are living without a warm place to rest:

- * 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. For \$\$ donations, mail **CHECKS** to: Maslow Project, PO Box 999, Medford, OR 97501, OR **go** directly to Maslow's website: www.maslowproject.com/donate.



"on hold" f

DINE (Dinner Is Never Enough)

Good friends, laughter and wine enhance the experience. When things return to "normal," we hope to meet again at restaurants at 6 pm the 4th

Thursday of each month. For updates on 2021 plans, please contact Therese Stevens at 541-601-0101.



LUNCH BUNCH

We are a congenial group of ladies who like to go out for lunch! In more normal times, we have



met on the second Tuesday of each month at 11:30 am at a local restaurant. Venue is decided at the previous lunch by the group. For 2021 plans, please email Mary Fowler at

mlfowler1951@gmail.com.

WINE & WHINE

Our Wine and Whine group has suspended our schedule of get-togethers until it is safe for our group to visit local wineries again. If you would like to be notified about our group's plans to resume meeting, please contact **Jan Purkeypile** at 541-621-4916.



MORNING BOOK GROUP

Previously, we have met the fourth Wednesday of the month in the Chetco Room of Skyline

Plaza at 10 am. For an update on 2021 plans, please contact Mary Wright Gillespie at 541-857-6083 or Sharon Purkerson at 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 presenta-



tion published for each topic by the Foreign Policy Association. For information about our 2021 schedule, please contact Janice Williams (541-857-6300) or email at janice.m.williams@gmail.com.

DESSERT BRIDGE

Normally, we have met 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 I the venue at 11:30 am. For updates, contact Pat

Stoddard (541-890-3828)



MAH JONG

We have met 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. We have been meeting at the Quail's Nest Bistro at the Manor at 1:30 PM and play from 2 to 4 PM. Everyone is welcome. For 2021

Baker at 541-857-6849.

schedule, contact Jackie

OUT & ABOUT



When it is safe to do so, we hope to attend community activities (theatre, art shows, music and other events) again. Anyone may suggest an outing and all are welcome to attend any event. For 2021 plans, please contact Janet **Brougher**, at 541-857-2862 or email jibrougher@gmail.com.



To set up a ZOOM meeting for your Interest Group or other AAUW gathering, you can email Vikki Piper at vpiper@sti.net with this information: Meeting name (Board Meeting, Committee, Wine & Whine...); meeting date, time and duration; and if this meeting is recurrent — on the same day/week each month, 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.



Why does WALDO wear stripes?



Because he doesn't want to be SPOTTED.

LOOKING FOR **YOU** ON OUR **ZOOM** SCREEN

We were happy to see these Branch members at our **January 9th** meeting: Carol Koszyk, Sherry Schroeder, Mae Boren, Janis

Taft, Loretta Sias, Sandy Heath, Camille Korsmo, Judie Salter, Patty Finch, Cathy deWolfe, Monica Weyhe, Mary Ferrell, Joan Rycraft, Janet Brougher, Yvette McCulley, Joyce Ellis, Gayle Clason, Judy



Van Zile, Jackie Baker, Pat Dege, Judy Blue, Ellen Jones, Teri Moser, Carole Chumbler, Carol Julian, Carol Bogedain, Kinzlee Jordan (a 2020 Scholarship Recipient) & Bonnie Goldfein.

PLEASE **ZOOM** IN ON FEBRUARY 4th!

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

P.O. BOX 1204

MEDFORD, OR 97501