



ATTENTION MEMBERS!

THE MUSINGS WILL BE PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. PLEASE SUBMIT ITEMS BY OCTOBER 15 FOR THE NOVEMBER/DECEMBER ISSUE. *Thank you!*

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, September 2 7 pm

Saturday, October 2 10 am

Thursday, November 4 7 pm

Saturday, December 4 10 am

(Sun Oaks has been reserved — we hope to meet in person for our Holiday gathering)

BOARD MEETINGS

November date TBD

All Branch members 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.*

**** SEE PAGE 3 FOR DETAILED SPEAKER INFORMATION ****

AAUW MISSION

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

President's Message

by Carol Koszyk

September is here! I am extending a huge "Welcome Back" to all of our AAUW Medford Branch Members. This past summer, your Medford AAUW Board and STEM Committee have been happily preparing for our upcoming year. We are going to "Keep On Keeping On", because the alternative (allowing Covid and smoke to dominate our lives) seems wrong. We have many blessings just due to where we are located in this world, and I try to remember that. I am hoping that you can too.

Please note two new features for our branch:

1) The Musings is being produced by a committee! Yes - a group of us gathered and you are reading the fruits of our labor! It was a jolly good time. If you think that you would like to join us - please call or email anyone on the committee. Check the new Board listed on page 8 of the Musings for their names, and also the names of the Medford University Women's Charitable Fund Board (MUWCF). All of these folks (and their committees) make sure that our organization helps women and girls in our valley and beyond. I am indebted to each and every one for their efforts.

2) We are sponsoring "Rogue Valley Girls Rock" which is a STEM learning event for 4th to 6th girls. Several local, not-for-profit businesses are assisting us with this exciting opportunity for young women. Check the article on page 3 to learn more.

Lastly, I want to thank you all again for the wonderful gifts that you gave to me at our June 3rd meeting. It was such a lovely surprise! You all made that day one that I gratefully remember. It buoyed me up! Thank you.



MEDFORD BRANCH GALA!

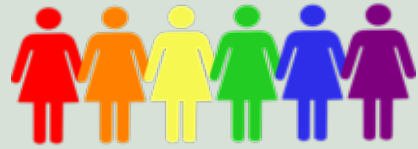


Our summer "meet and greet" gala was canceled due to Covid concerns, hot temps, and smokey conditions. You'll be happy to note that we've rescheduled the celebration to **Wednesday, October 20th** from 4:00-6:00pm at

RoxyAnn Winery in Medford. With cooler weather and blue skies, we hope to be outside under the large tent, which offers plenty of fresh air. There will be finger foods, wine, non-alcoholic beverages, awesome raffle prizes and amazing conversation. More information will follow, but for now ... mark your calendars!

Guests are welcome! If interested in joining AAUW, prospective members can join with the "Shape the Future" program at a reduced fee.

We are very pleased to announce that our Branch has received an original watercolor painting from a local artist, Diana King McGimpsey. As you can see in the picture below, it is matted and in a very beautiful vintage wood frame. Yes!! Every member has an opportunity to win this painting!! All you need to do is come to our Gala and you will receive a complimentary raffle ticket. We are greatly indebted to Diana who has recently moved from Texas to Talent. When she heard about our AAUW Branch and how we assist women with scholarships- she graciously donated her watercolor. Thank you, Diana!



MEMBERS MATTER

by Ellen Jones & Sandy Heath

First and foremost, we'd like to thank each and every member for renewing their membership and wish a warm welcome to our newest members. We've faced big challenges in the last twelve months whether it be Covid or wild-fires & smoke. As an organization, we continue to find ways to stay connected through ZOOM meetings, social gatherings with safety guidelines, and some interest groups, and, of course, our Musings keeps us informed and entertained. We hope to return to more social interaction, but in the meantime we will continue to find alternate ways to connect. We welcome your input!





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

You are invited to the First Annual Rogue Valley **Girls Rock STEM Event** sponsored by our Medford AAUW Branch. The opportunity will take place on **Saturday, September 25**, from 9:00—noon. We will be meeting at the Kid-Time Children’s Museum in downtown Medford. The AAUW STEM committee has invited 12 upper elementary school age girls to participate in the four mini-workshops provided. We would love to have you join us for the fun! We are meeting outside for the event so dress appropriately. Parking on the street where there is no signage is recommended.

We are continuing to add STEM books to the Kid-Time Children’s Library and Ivy School. The next collection will be at the December 4 AAUW Potluck. Plan to bring a “gently used” and/or new STEM related book(s) to be gifted to the Museum for the holidays. Of course, you can gift your STEM books prior to that date if you wish. Contact Yvette McCulley for collection and distribution. Thank you in advance for your participation in this project.



AAUW Program Schedule Fall 2021 by Zoom

Thursday, September 2, 2021 at 7 pm

AAUW's first meeting of the 2021-2022 year is September 2nd at 7 pm, via Zoom. You'll be welcomed back with a presentation by the new Social Worker at the Jackson County Library System. JCLS recently expanded its services and underscored commitment to inclusivity with the new staff social worker.

Mehmood Madha received his master’s degree in social work from the Columbia School of Social Work. His work focuses on how to address systemic inequity through advocacy and policy change.

“Libraries represent one of the last purely democratic institutions that exist anywhere in our nation,” said Madha. “They offer a welcoming and safe environment that marginalized populations or those with limited assets can access freely. As Jackson County deals with the results of both a global pandemic and a series of destructive wildfires, our library system is asking, how can we step-up and better serve our community at a time of unprecedented need?”



Saturday, October 2, 2021 at 10 am

Guest speaker **Edwin Battistella** will present ***Dangerous Crooked Scoundrels: Insulting the President, from Washington to Trump.***

Edwin Battistella has taught linguistics and writing at Southern Oregon University in Ashland since 2000. His most recent book is *Dangerous Crooked Scoundrels: Insulting the President, from Washington to Trump* (Oxford, 2020). In this book, Battistella shows that insulting the president is an American tradition. Covering American history from Washington to Trump, he places insult in the context of the times. Whatever your politics, this presentation will give you a healthy perspective on today's political climate.

Edwin Battistella is the author of six books (including *Sorry About That: the Language of Public Apology*) and his essays have appeared in *Time Magazine*, *The Daily Beast*, *The Conversation*, *AEON*, *the Huffington Post*, *Politico*, *the Chronicle of Higher Education*, *Academe*, and *the Library Journal*.



Thursday, November 4, 2021 at 7 pm

Holly Nickerson, MBA, BSN, RN, CPHQ, CPPS is the Vice President of Quality & Safety for Asante. Holly will speak about her role as head of the entire **COVID Response Operation for Asante Hospital**. She has worked for Asante since 2006. She has a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from OHSU School of Nursing, a Master of Business Administration in Healthcare Management from OHSU & Portland State University and is working towards a Doctor of Nursing Practice Executive Nursing Leadership. In her spare time she is an active member in the Southern Oregon community coaching youth soccer and serves as a board member for the Rogue Valley Timbers Soccer club.

AAUW FUNDS

by Mary Wright Gillespie, AAUW Funds Chair

As of June 30, 2021, \$3819 has been contributed by our branch to the National funds.

THANK YOU for your generosity!



PUBLIC POLICY

Recently, AAUW Board Chair Julia Brown shared the news that I will step down as AAUW CEO this fall to pursue a new opportunity. As I prepare to transition to my next role as President of The Washington Center, I want you to know it's been an honor to work with you towards our vision of equity for all.



The future is bright. AAUW is emerging from the pandemic with a stronger financial balance sheet, more transparent governance, highly skilled and dedicated staff, and clear strategic priorities. As we approach our 140th birthday in November, our AAUW is poised for a rich and consequential future.

Let's imagine what that might look like. Where will AAUW be on its journey by our 150th anniversary? How will our mission work today shape the world for the next generation? Will we make meaningful strides towards equity in our focus areas of education, economic security and leadership? How might our members and staff address the needs of women and girls a decade from now?

These are questions I ask you to ponder over the coming weeks in relation to our [strategic plan](#). You've played a huge role in who we are today, and you'll continue to define the AAUW of tomorrow. I know AAUW will remain a national leader in the fight for equity. Stay tuned for more messages about our 140th anniversary—and more opportunities to chart the course ahead.

AAUW has always been strengthened by its committed and passionate member leaders and staff. None of that will change with my departure. It's been a true pleasure to engage with you in person andally, and to build lifelong friendships. I can assure you that, while I may not be in the national office, I'll remain a dedicated and active AAUW member.

Thank you for all you do—I am deeply grateful for your commitment to AAUW and to me personally during my tenure.

Onward,

Kim Churches, AAUW CEO

KID-TIME

AAUW supports Kid-Time, a non-profit children's discovery museum and early learning center in Medford, which focuses on kids 0 to 10 years old. A list of general donation needs and volunteer opportunities is on their website Kid-time.org/volunteer.



September

Out of all 12 months, September is spelled with the most letters!



Birthstone is sapphire and Zodiac signs are Virgo (Aug 23-Sept 22) and Libra (Sept 23-Oct 22)

- 6 Labor Day
- 7 Rosh Hashanah
- 15 First day of Hispanic Heritage Month
- 16 Yom Kippur
- 17 Constitution Day
- 19 Talk like a Pirate Day - AYE Matey!
- 22 First day of Fall

Some other lesser known holidays are: National Grandparent Day, National Cheese Pizza Day, and National Drink-A-Beer Day .. cheers!

October

October ends on the same day of the week as February every year; go figure!

Birthstone is tourmaline & opal and Zodiac signs are Libra (Sept 23-Oct 22) and Scorpio (Oct 23-Nov 21)

- 1 National Homemade Cookies Day AND World Smile Day (1st Friday)
- 5 National "Do Something Nice" Day
- 9 National Fire Protection Week
- 12 Thanksgiving Day in Canada
- 15 World Animal Day
- 31 Halloween



CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS!

SEPTEMBER

14 Janice Williams

29 Glenda Sims

OCTOBER

9 Vikki Piper

10 Charlotte Park

11 Mary Fowler

11 Kit Nilles

12 Robin Smith

15 Mardy Stevens

28 Kathy Swarts

30 Janet Brougher

31 Donna Wallender



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

Murder Most Literary continues to meet by Zoom. We will meet at 7:00 on **September 9** with Anne Newins leading a discussion on Hollywood Mysteries. Our October meeting is on **October 14** with Terri Wraight talking about Irish mysteries.

Contact: Mary Wright Gillespie, 541-857-6083.



HAPPY BOOKERS

We will be meeting Wednesday **September 15** @ 2:00 at Twin Creeks Park. We will be discussing Lab Girl by Hope Jahren. Tricia Wood will be our discussion leader. Please bring a chair and something to drink. Any questions please contact Therese Stevens @ 541-601-0101 or tmstevens56@gmail.com

Mah Jong (on hold)

The Mah Jong group meets the second and fourth Mondays of each month to play. Our group plays 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, we meet at 1:30 pm and play goes from 2 to 4 pm. Everyone is welcome. Contact: Jackie Baker at 541-857-6849.

Fully-vaccinated members Monica Weyhe, Ellen Jones, Carol Koszyk, and Sandy Heath celebrate June at Nuames Suncrest Winery in Talent.



GREAT DECISIONS:

Our group discusses the global challenges faced by U.S. Foreign Policy in government by looking at topics which are presented in a study booklet published by the Foreign Policy Association.

On **Saturday, September 11** at 9:30am, we meet at Regula Pepi's house, 6590 Hillcrest Road, for a discussion of Ch. 8 Artificial Intelligence & Data.



For additional information on our 2021 schedule, please contact Janet Brougher at jjbrougher@gmail.com, cell 541-326-1767, hm 541-857-2862 or Joann Nadell at nadelljoann@gmail.com, cell 541-840-1529.

OUT & ABOUT

When it is safe to do so, we hope to attend populous community activities (theatre, art shows, music or other events) again. As more venues open, anyone may suggest an outing. All are welcome to attend—proof of vaccination & masks may be required. Contact Janet Brougher at jjbrougher@gmail.com or cell 541-326-1767 or hm 541-857-2862.



FUN "on hold" for now

DINE (Dinner Is Never Enough)

Good friends, laughter and wine enhance the experience. We meet at a different restaurant at 6:00 the 4th Thursday of each month, except November (skip) and December (date moved). Reservations are required by Monday of that week. Contacts: Virginia McGraw 541-245-6035



LUNCH BUNCH

The "Lunch Bunch" is 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.



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. Contact: Jan Purkeypille, 541-621-4916.



MORNING BOOK GROUP

Meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month in the Chetco Room of Skyline Plaza at 10:00 AM. The books are selected by vote in May and include fiction and non-fiction.

Members choose in June the date and book they want to review. The meetings last for one hour, and the discussions are always lively. In December we have a feast and exchange books for fun. Contact: Mary Wright Gillespie, 541-857-6083.



A priest, a rabbit and a minister walk into a bar. The bartender asks the rabbit, "What'll it be?" The rabbit replies, "I dunno. I'm only here because of autocorrect!"



DESSERT BRIDGE

The Afternoon Bridge group meets the first Wednesday each month at 12:30 pm for dessert and "party" bridge in members' homes. Members 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 patstoddard@gmail.com if you're comfortable playing in person again.**



ACT (AAUW Community Team):

ACT is a group of 10-15 women who work on a short-term community project, 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, tmstevens56@gmail.com

Did you know?

By replacing your morning coffee w/ green tea you can lose up to 90% of what little joy you still have left in your life.



To set up a ZOOM meeting for your Interest Group or other AAUW gathering, you can email **Vicki 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. Vicki will set up the meeting and then email you with the meeting ID and password. You can then forward the information to your group.



**Medford University Women Charitable Fund
(MUWCF)
Board
2020-21**

What is MUWCF? Medford University Women Charitable Fund is the full name. This 501 (c) (3) organization was developed so our Medford AAUW Branch could offer a fully tax deductible option for businesses who wanted to donate toward our efforts to raise money for scholarships for women and girls. We are very appreciative of the fine work that our MUWCF Board Officers and Members provide. Here is the current list and please know that if you have any questions or would like to help in any way - please contact either Paulette Avery (averyfam1@charter.net) or Mary Wright Gillespie (541-857-6083).

Paulette Avery, President

Marlene Olson, Vice President

Patty Finch, Secretary

Pat Stoddard, Treasurer

Mary Wright Gillespie, Liaison to AAUW Board

Janis Taft

Jan Purkeypile

Vikki Piper

Sandy Heath

MEDFORD LEADERSHIP TEAM

President

Carol Koszyk (541)608-7799
thekoszyks@msn.com

Finance VP Carol Julian

Membership Co-VPs

Sandy Heath (503) 701-2644
sgheath2@outlook.com

Ellen Jones (209) 756-3202
emjones57@gmail.com

Program Committee

Robin Smith, Pat Stoddard, Carol Koszyk

Secretaries

Janet Brougher / Cathy deWolfe

MUWCF Liaison to Branch

Mary Wright Gillespie

AAUW Funds

Mary Wright Gillespie

Communications Director

Monica Weyhe

Interest Groups/ACT Chair

Therese Stevens

Public Policy Chair OPEN

Scholarship Liaison Tanya McHenry

S.T.E.M. Director Yvette McCulley

Webmaster Jean Foley

Musings Committee

**Janet Brougher, Ellen Jones,
Carol Koszyk, Sandy Heath**



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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