

AAUW MISSION

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

President's Message

By Lisa Hughes (Co-president with Carol Koszyk)

Welcome to a new year!

As always, it feels as if last year went very quickly and it's hard to believe we're in a new one. It was nice getting back to a more normal life and being able to meet in person (even if rates of infection have gone up again and we're back to masks). I hope by next year things will be even better.

If you missed the Christmas party, you missed a great occasion. Many thanks to Kathy Swarts for arranging the use of the space at Sun Oaks, and to her committee members, Carol Koszyk, Peg Riehlman, Carole Chumbler, Ellen Jones, and Sandy Heath. The clubhouse was beautifully decorated, the food was delicious, and the games were fun—and the company was wonderful! We especially enjoyed having guests Bonnie Bergstrom (who came with Nancy Walden), Michelle Matthew (Kathy Swarts) and Carol Moody (Lillian Stewart). Bonnie and Carol both expressed interest in joining our branch, and Michelle was going to look up her local AAUW branch in Lake Oswego/Portland.

Plans are going forward for the Oregon AAUW Annual Meeting, which will be in Ashland on the weekend of April 14 to 16. It sounds as if it will be both fun and educational, with chances to meet up with AAUW members from other branches. I hope you'll put it on your calendar and participate in some of the events.

In the spirit of cooperation between branches, an e-blast will be coming your way with the Ashland Branch's program schedule ("Big Ideas"). Their March, April, and May meetings will be at the Medford Library, which makes it even easier to attend!

Of course, I'm also looking forward to our own meetings. Robin Smith has arranged a presentation on the Title IX program by April Hamlin on January 7 (see Page 5 for more information). Thanks to Pat Stoddard, we are invited out to Mercy Flights for our meeting on February 4. (more information on page 4) If you have ideas for programs, please let Barbara Laskin know. (And thank you, Barbara, for all the work you are doing on programs!)

Looking forward to next year—we need five volunteers to be on the Nominating Committee. The committee will meet in late January or early February and will only take just a few hours of your time. They will be finding candidates for Finance VP and Programs VP, both of which are two-year commitments, and President, a one-year commitment. We'll be voting on candidates in April. Please let either Carol or me know if you are willing to be on the committee and/or are willing to run for one of the offices. Thanks!

National has sent out a survey to all branches. If there is anything you want conveyed to National, please let Carol or me know before January 8 so that it can be included in our response.

As with many organizations, AAUW is facing a decline in numbers, with some branches having to disband. I have some ideas of things we might do to make our branch more visible. I'd love to get a few more people to get together and brainstorm some of the options. If you're interested, please let me know. Thanks.



THE MUSINGS ARTICLES DUE DATE!

THE MUSINGS is published bi-monthly. Please submit items to any committee member (see pg. 10 for list of names) by WEDNESDAY, FEB. 15TH for the MARCH / APRIL 2023 issue.

Thank you!

(We all LOVE photos, too!)



**JANUARY GENERAL MEETING
SATURDAY, 01/07/23, 9:30 A.M.
Rogue Credit Union (Alford Room)
1300 Poplar Drive
Program: Title IX
Speaker: April Hamlin, RCC**

On Sunday, Dec18th, the **Southern Oregon Children's Museum** hosted their annual **Polar Express** extravaganza. The Museum was transformed into a winter wonderland with lots of activities for kiddos & their families to participate in. Hot chocolate & coffee was provided, as well as, sugar cookies with a plethora of sprinkles for decorating. The Annex, which is directly across the street from the museum, is where the magic happened. Sandy Heath, Ellen Jones & her husband Tom, volunteered at the event.



At this time, the Children's Museum is in need of:

- New or gently used kid's sweats sizes 3T-5T (gender neutral colors);
- knit gloves;
- new underwear (boys & girls);
- cardboard tubes from TP/paper towels and egg cartons.

Located in the historic Carnegie Building in Downtown Medford, 413 Main St., 541-772-9922. Contact AAUW member Ellen Jones if you have questions about donating.

**FYI: AAUW Medford Branch
General Meeting Schedule 2022/2023**

- **Saturday, January 7, 2023, 9:30 am Social / 10 am Program "Title IX".** Rogue Credit Union (Alford Room), 1330 Poplar Drive, Medford (at the corner of McAndrews & Poplar). April Hamlin, Dean of Student Success/Compliance and Deputy Title IX Coordinator at Rogue Community College, will be presenting a program about the creation and history of Title IX; and how that program has progressed to the current goal that all students are treated equitably. (See Page 5 for more information.)

Sat., **February 4, 2023** — **Mercy Flights Tour / Program**
9:30 am meet at Mercy Flight's Headquarters, 2020 Milligan Way, Medford (make a right on Airport Road, left on Milligan Way). Tour at 10:00 am. Call Pat Stoddard if you need a ride (541) 890-3828. (See page 4 for more information about Mercy Flights.)

The following months - the dates and most locations are reserved (no details for the programs, yet). We just wanted you all to put these dates on your calendar as "AAUW".

- Sat., **March 4, 2023, 9:30 am Social / 10 am Program** Rogue Credit Union (Alford Room), 1330 Poplar Drive, Medford (at the corner of McAndrews & Poplar).
- Thurs., **April 6, 2023, 5:30 pm Social / 6 pm Program** Sun Oaks Clubhouse, 2485 Sun Oaks Drive, Medford (located near St. Mary's School)
- Sat., **May 20, 2023**, we are hoping for a Scholarship Lunch this year!
- Thurs., **June 1, 2023, 5:30 pm Social / 6 pm Program** Sun Oaks Clubhouse, 2485 Sun Oaks Drive, Medford (located near St. Mary's School)

NEXT BOARD MEETING:

**Tues., January 10th
5:30 pm Social
6:00 pm Potluck Dinner / Meeting
Carol Koszyk's home**

*(Branch members are welcome to attend.
Call Carol Koszyk or Lisa Hughes if interested) .*

NEW MEMBER!

Welcome *Bonnie Bergstrom* to our ranks! Bonnie joined at our recent Holiday Lunch. She earned her AAS in art at Wright College in Chicago and BA and M. Ed at Northeastern IL and National Louis University, Evanston, IL, respectively. Bonnie lives in Medford.

AACW Holiday Lunch!!



On Sunday, December 4th, members and their guests joined us in celebrating the beginning of this holiday season with a luncheon & gift exchange.

A huge "shout out" goes to Kathy Swarts for getting the clubhouse decorated; gifting us with hand-made holiday pins and personalized name-tags; and providing the delicious main dishes. Members really stepped up by providing appetizers, side dishes and luscious desserts.

The gift exchange, played with the white elephant rules, was MC'd by Ellen who kept the game light & lively. At the end of the festivities, we walked away happier and our appetites satiated.

We'd also like to thank the generosity of our members who brought non-perishable items, personal hygiene supplies and monetary donations for the Maslow Project. We filled up Monica's car with the items, and she delivered them the next day to the delight of the staff at Maslow Project.

And lastly, thanks to those of you who stayed behind to help clean up the clubhouse to make it look as if we'd never been there! THANK YOU, SUN OAKS CLUBHOUSE!



AAUW FUNDS

by Mary Wright Gillespie, AAUW Funds Chair

According to my records our branch contributed \$5,500 during 2022. I do not have a final amount from National and this does not include any direct payments made on line. A huge thank you to our generous members and \$2,500 of that came from our Camelot fundraiser!

Mary Wright Gillespie

AAUW Funds Chair

November General Meeting Recap:

On November 3, Brandon Thoms was our program speaker. His presentation was even more impressive in that he kindly filled in at the last minute for the person originally scheduled who had an urgent family matter to resolve. His presentation centered on the wonderful contributions **Habitat For Humanity** makes to the community.

Many thanks to Brandon Thoms!



Sheila Clough, CEO Mercy Flights February 4th General Meeting Tour of Mercy Flights Facility (see pg. 2)



In June 2020, Ms. Clough accepted the role as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Mercy Flights, Inc., headquartered in Medford, Oregon.

Mercy Flights, Inc. is the first non-profit air medical transport organization in the United States and was established by George Milligan in 1949 to help transport medical patients from the Rogue Valley of Oregon to tertiary care facilities for care. Today, the organization continues to offer air medical transportation and also provides 911 emergency services for most of Jackson County as well as mobile integrated healthcare services to patients within the surrounding communities.

Prior to her current executive role, Sheila joined Asante Ashland Community Hospital as CEO on September 4, 2013, and lead the organization through a financial turnaround, integration with Asante Health system and rebuilding of the Birth Center (including development of a Midwifery program), Orthopedic program and a highly engaged team.

Ms. Clough previously served as President and Chief Operating Officer for Howard Young Health Care in Woodruff, Wis. She held several progressive leadership roles after joining Howard Young Health Care in 1998 including Assistant Vice President of Ancillary Services; Director of Laboratory and Pharmaceutical Services; and Director of Laboratory Services.

Ms. Clough earned a Master of Business Administration for Healthcare Executives from Cardinal Stritch University in Milwaukee, Wis., and holds a Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology from the University of Minnesota. Ms. Clough is Board Certified and holds Fellow status with the American College of Healthcare Executives and is actively involved with various civic and professional organizations (including Rotary, Ashland Chamber of Commerce, and Oregon State Ambulance Association for example). In 2017, she was appointed by Oregon Governor Kate Brown to serve on the Southern Oregon University (SOU) Board of Trustees. Currently, she serves as SOU's Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees.

She is married with two children and enjoys traveling with her family. They live in Central Point and truly appreciate all that the Rogue Valley and the surrounding area has to offer.



MERCY FLIGHTS MEMBERSHIP!

Contact Sandy Heath (text or call 503-701-2644) if you are interested in joining Mercy Flights through AAUW's group membership. Join in January at a pro-rated cost of \$17. (Our regular membership renewal is in March).

JANUARY GENERAL MEETING!



Saturday, January 7, 2023, 9:30 am Social / 10 am Program **"Title IX"**. Rogue Credit Union, 1330 Poplar Drive, Medford (at the corner of McAndrews & Poplar).

2022 was the 50th anniversary of the passage of Title IX as amendments to the Civil Rights Act of 1964: "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." —Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.

While this legislation led to outstanding progress for girls and women from classrooms to playing fields, the fight to fully realize the potential benefits is on-going. April Hamlin, Dean of Student Success/ Compliance, Deputy Title IX Coordinator at Rogue Community College, will be presenting a program about the creation and history of Title IX; and how that program has progressed to the current goal that all students are treated equitably.

Inspirational Quote to begin 2023!

"Imagine how different the world would be if little girls were taught to set boundaries as often as they were taught to be polite."

Hailey Magee



JANUARY



6th Carol Rugg
 11th Patricia Herkert
 11th Camille Korsmo
 16th Judy Blue
 19th Joann Nadell
 22nd Ellen Jones
 28th Lisa Hughes

Zodiac Signs: Capricorn & Aquarius

Birthstone: Garnet

JANUARY FUN FACTS:

1st - New Year's Day
 4th - National Spaghetti Day
 6th - Epiphany
 15th - Martin Luther King Day
 31st - National Hot Chocolate Day



7th Tricia Wood
 8th Christine Bate
 10th Ronnie Budge
 15th Maria-Cristina Page
 19th Regula Pepi
 19th Nancy Walden
 21st Tanya McHenry
 24th Carol Julian
 27th Janis Taft

Zodiac Signs: Aquarius & Pisces

Birthstone: Amethyst

FEBRUARY FUN FACTS:

1st Lunar New Year aka Chinese New Year
 2nd Groundhog Day
 12th Abraham Lincoln's Birthday
 14th Valentine's Day
 15th Susan B. Anthony's Birthday

New Member Spotlight!

Meet Kathy Swarts!



I joined the Medford AAUW last year, after being a national member for years! It was great finding a local AAUW group!

My husband, Jim, and I have lived in the Rogue Valley since 1974: in Ashland for 35 years, during which we raised our family, and I completed my Nursing degrees, and worked at Ashland Community Hospital for 28 years. I "retired" from ACH in 2003 and earned my Masters degree in Nursing Education, then joined the OHSU School of Nursing teaching staff at the SOU campus. After I retired from OHSU in 2012, Jim and I moved to Sun Oaks, in Medford. Sadly, I lost Jim in 2019, after 54 wonderful years together.

During my career, I organized and coordinated many work-related events, including weekend seminars, special events, and gatherings. I enjoy reading, music, cooking, sewing and creative arts of all kinds--but I absolutely love organizing memorable social events, and was happy to offer my service for this year's holiday party committee! I put my organizational skills to use at this year's Holiday party, and so enjoyed working with our committee members!

I'm excited to meet new AAUW members, and help assist more young women with their educational journeys through our contributions.

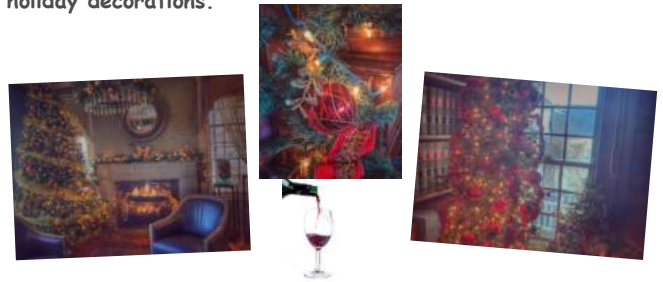
AAUW Community Team (ACT)

On Friday, December 9th, the **Logos Charter School** hosted volunteers to judge their Student Career Presentations. This project is similar to the Senior Project in the Oregon Public Schools. The part that makes it different - is each student explores three possible career choices. After their investigation, the student reports on all three with an in-depth focus on their favorite career.

Kristin Gaylor, the Logos Scholar Academy Director, recruits adult volunteers to judge the student's presentations. Kristin welcomed AAUW volunteers, **Cathy de-Wolfe, Monica Weyhe and Carol Koszyk's husband, Phil**, to judge 6 students each. Kristin provided guidelines for the volunteers to use for each student's Evaluation Sheet, and there was a "question and answer" period at the end of each student's presentation for the judges to evaluate the student's extemporaneous public speaking abilities. The students were all so skilled in public speaking! It was a heartening and encouraging volunteer opportunity while being helpful for the students. The students use the judges' comments to improve their speaking, writing and investigative skills.

We want to thank our volunteers for their service as part of our AAUW Community Team (ACT). If you would like to be included as a volunteer judge next year (it is always in December) - let Carol Koszyk know so she can make sure you will be notified. Also, our branch members have volunteered to be Senior Project Judges at our local public high schools. These Senior Projects are judged in May of each year. Perhaps May is a better time for you to commit to being a volunteer (again, let Carol know). We hope you will consider volunteering!

The Wine and Whine interest group met at EdenVale Winery in December. Paulette Avery's photos captured the beautiful holiday decorations.



2022-23 Member Directories have been mailed!!

Let us know if you didn't receive it. Please change the following in your booklet: Vikki Piper's address should be PO Box 1062, Shady Cove. Other corrections should be directed to Sandy Heath at sgheath2@outlook.com. Thank you!

AAUW of Oregon Breaking Barriers Achievement Award



AAUW Medford and the Breaking Barriers Award

By Sherry Schroeder

AAUW Medford will be sending in a nomination to AAUW Oregon's AAUW Breaking Barriers Award state committee for their consideration for this year's award, to be presented at the AAUW Oregon Convention held in Ashland in April 14-16, 2023.

Sherry Schroeder has submitted to AAUW Medford Board the name of **Andrea Reeder**, Executive Director and VP of ASANTE FOUNDATION. Andrea, being successful in her field, has a progressive style and is a dedicated professional. Her leadership and community collaboration engages many to concentrate on best practices. She works diligently for our mission of advancing equity and education, which makes her a deserving candidate for consideration. Her nomination has been approved by the Branch Board. Sherry has been asked to write and submit the AAUW Medford Nomination, due by January 10th. This work will be completed over this Holiday Season. We look forward to the spring gathering when the winner of this prestigious award will be announced.



Andrea Reeder, Medford AAUW's nominee for the annual "Breaking Barriers Award" for an Oregon woman currently not an AAUW member and/or an Oregon group, who, within the past five years, has exemplified AAUW's mission in a manner that has had a demonstrative impact on our state's women and girls in the areas of equity and/or education.

Interest Groups

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. **(ALERT to all members—consider volunteering to be our Chairperson for Interest Groups / ACT (ACT stands for AAUW Community Team). Can you help? Call anyone on page 10 to talk to us about it!**

MURDER MOST LITERARY

On Thursday, January 12th, at 7:00 pm., by Zoom. Carol Rugg is the leader for that discussion. On Thursday, February 9th, Terri Wraight will lead discussion on the topics of archeologists and anthropologists. For information contact Mary Wright Gillespie, 541-857-6083.



WINE & WHINE!

The Wine and Whine Group meets on the third Friday of each month at 2:00 pm.

Our next outings:

Friday, January 20, 2:00 pm, Dana Campbell Winery, 1320 N Mountain Ave., Ashland



Friday, February 17, 2:00 pm, South Stage Cellars, 125 S 3rd St., Jacksonville.

Friday, March 17, 2:00 pm, Paschal Winery 1122 Suncrest Rd., Talent

Please RSVP to Vikki Piper by the Monday prior to the get-together vpiper@sti.net.

Morning Book Group!

Meets 1st Monday of month at 10 am.
2854 Yvonne Road, Medford, OR

- Monday, January 2, 2023; Book — The Elephant Whisperer by Lawrence Anthony. Leader Liz Caldwell
- Monday, February 6; Book — Why We Sleep by Matthew Walker. Leader Jackie Baker

Email Gayle Clason at sew2day2013@gmail.com for more information.

Needleworkers

Are you a knitter, crocheter, cross stitcher, mender, enthusiast for embroidery work? If you love working with needle and thread—consider joining Medford AAUW Needleworkers. Even if you have never attended a previous meeting, we would love to have you join us. All meetings are from 1:00-3:00.

- Friday, Jan. 13, at Lisa Hughes' home
- Friday, Feb. 10, at Sandy Heath's home

Contact Joann Nadell, 541 840 1529 nadelljoann@gmail.com if you have questions or concerns. *Happy stitching!*



HAPPY BOOKERS

Happy Bookers usually meets the third Wednesday of each month at 2 pm.

The locations will be sent in a reminder email approximately one week before the meeting. Most of the meetings will be in the presenter/host's home, but when weather permits, are sometimes held outside. If you would like to join our group or have any questions, please contact one of the group coordinators: Monica Weyhe (monicaw655@gmail.com) or (541) 326-8042) or Robin Smith (robjag@hotmail.com) or (541) 646-5724).

Next meetings: January 18th (book exchange / holiday lunch) - location TBD;

February 15th, 2:00 pm, at Jackie Baker's home.



GREAT DECISIONS:

Our group discusses the global challenges faced by U.S. Foreign Policy in government.

On Saturday, January 21, 2023 at 9:30am, the Great Decisions Interest Group will be meeting in-person at Joann Nadell's house (1813 Wildflower Drive at Rogue Valley Manor) for the members to pick up their Great Decisions books and sign up to present each book chapter with a discussion leader(s).

Please contact Joann Nadell at 541-840-1529 nadelljoann@gmail.com or Pat Dege at 541-857-6908 patdege@gmail.com if you have any questions or would like to join the group discussions, which are usually held once a month and will be announced once the group decides when and where to meet.



DESSERT BRIDGE

Afternoon Dessert Bridge meets the first Wednesday of the month.

On Weds., January 4th at Veranda Park, 11:30 for a no-host lunch, and Weds., February 1st at 11:30, for a no-host lunch at Rogue Valley Country Club. Both dates will be followed by Bridge at 1:00 pm.

Contact Pat Stoddard
541-890-3828 or email



patstoddard@gmail.com if you are interested in joining or subbing.

Interest Groups/ACT (AAUW Community Team) Chair Needed!



BUNCO GROUP IS LAUNCHED!

Carol Julian is a Bunco winner! →



The Bunco Group played its second game and we had a great time. Our next game will be **Monday, February 6th at 1:00**. Location TBD. Each player will need to bring \$5.00 for the "kitty". The money will be divided up for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place winners & the person with the most losses. Email Ellen Jones if you're interested in being a member or a 'sub'. Must RSVP by Weds., February 1st.

The Lunch Bunch

Kathy Swarts graciously agreed to be our Lunch Bunch Coordinator

The "Lunch Bunch" is a congenial group of ladies who like to go out for lunch! Our first get-together will be **Monday, January 9, at 12 noon, Tap and Vine**. (At Tinsel Town across from the movie theater.

The group will decide the next meeting date and location. Call or text Kathy at 541-821-7165. **(Reservations are a must by Friday, 01/06.)**



DINE (Dinner Is Never Enough)

Good friends, laughter and wine enhance the experience. We met at a different restaurant on the 4th Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm.

(ON HOLD — A GROUP LEADER IS NEEDED)

OUT & ABOUT

We hope to attend 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.



We need an INTEREST GROUPS / ACT (AAUW Community Team) Chairperson!!

PLEASE CONSIDER TAKING A LEADERSHIP ROLE AS INTEREST GROUPS / ACT CHAIR!

This position is a voting member of the Board and vital to our community outreach. Please consider volunteering.

CONTACT CAROL KOSZYK AT 541-601-6837 FOR INFORMATION.



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. 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. (Note: alternate contact is Carol Koszyk)

MEDFORD AAUW MEMBERS

It's easy to stay informed!

Sign up for AAUW's 2-Minute Activist at
aauw.org/Two-minute



Medford University Women Charitable Fund

**(MUWCF)
Board
2022-2023**

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).

Upcoming MUWCF Board Meetings are scheduled for the 4th Tuesday of January, April, July, October at 10:00 am.

Paulette Avery, President
Marlene Olson, Vice President
Ellen Jones, Secretary (Temporary)
Vikki Piper, Treasurer
Mary Gillespie, Liaison to AAUW Board
Janis Taft
Jan Purkeypile
Sandy Heath



Medford AAUW Officers and Board, (July 1, 2022- June 30, 2023)

Elected Officers (Voting)

- Co-Presidents: *Lisa Hughes, Carol Koszyk*
- Immediate Past President: *Carol Koszyk*
- Vice President/Finance: *Carol Julian*
- Vice President/Programs: *Barbara Laskin*
- Co-Vice Presidents/Membership: *Sandy Heath, Ellen Jones*
- Secretary/General Meetings: *Camille Korsmo*
/Board Meetings: *Joann Nadell*

Appointed Board Members (Voting)

- AAUW Funds: *Mary W. Gillespie*
- Communications Director (& Finance VP, AAUW Oregon): *Monica Weyhe*
- Interest Groups/ACT (AAUW Community Team)
Chair: *OPEN*
- MUWCF Liaison: *Mary W. Gillespie*
- Public Policy Chair: *OPEN*
- Scholarship Liaison: *Tanya McHenry*
- S.T.E.M. Director: *OPEN*

Appointed Chairs (Non-Voting)

- Hospitality: *Pat Stoddard*
- In Our Thoughts Secretary: *Ellen Jones*
- Phone Tree Secretary: *OPEN*
- Webmaster: *Jean Foley*
- Newsletter Editor: *Committee - Sandy Heath, Ellen Jones and Carol Koszyk*



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