



MEDFORD OREGON BRANCH

# MEDFORD Musings

Volume 51, Number 2

Nov / Dec 2023

## AAUW MISSION

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

### President's Message

By Lisa Hughes , President

Fall is definitely here! I'm enjoying seeing the trees change color, and having the temperatures drop. I hope you are too!



If you didn't make it to our fundraiser, seeing *Cabaret* at the Camelot Theater, you missed a good evening. It's a powerful play, and was well done. Thanks, Mary Gillespie, for organizing the evening!

Interest groups are meeting again. There's something for everyone, so if you aren't currently participating in one (or more!), please do look at the list of possibilities (pgs 8 & 9 ).

AAUW Oregon will be celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary state annual meeting in 2025. We've been asked to come up with highlights of our chapter. So far, people have suggested the garden tours and our efforts to keep libraries up and running. If there are other things you'd like to see mentioned, please let me know (pg. 3).

Many thanks to Barbara Laskin for the interesting speakers she is finding. It was really fun to have our own member Judie Salter discuss her experiences as a prison librarian (see pg. 6). Wow! And I loved learning more about broadcasting and the history of news reporting here from Patsy Smullin (see pg. 6).

Judie Salter has had to resign from being STEaM chair, so we're looking for someone who would like to take this over. It's a way to encourage young women to look at these fields, and can be an exciting opportunity. See the job description on pg. 5.

Mary Bourne has said she will take over as Public Policy Chair after the new year. Both Public Policy and STEM positions can really use others to help organize and brainstorm. We can also use a person to take over our website. If you are interested, please let me know. Thanks!

Our next meeting is Saturday, Nov. 4, at Rogue Credit Union. Social time at 9:30am, speaker at 10. Our speaker will be David Sommers, editor of the Rogue Valley Times. I've heard him speak, and thoroughly enjoyed his account of getting a new newspaper up and running.

I'm really looking forward to our holiday party on Sunday, Dec. 10, at the Sun Oaks club house. Kathy Swarts is organizing it again—she did such a wonderful job last year! I hope to see you there!

Wishing you a spooky Halloween, a joyful Thanksgiving, and wonderful holiday season!

Lisa

[lhlasastitch@gmail.com](mailto:lhlasastitch@gmail.com), 408-316-0004



### INTEREST GROUPS!

We have many opportunities to interact with each other through our Interest Groups! All groups are free of charge. Members may contact one of the group contacts at any time. If you would like to start a new group around your special interest, contact Kathy Swarts, Interest Groups/ ACT Chair [jandkswarts@charter.net](mailto:jandkswarts@charter.net).

(See Page 8 and 9 for detailed schedule information!)



# GENERAL MEETINGS

## **FYI: AAUW Medford Branch General Meeting Schedule**

**Saturday, November 4, 2023**, 9:30 A.M. Social gathering, Program at 10:00 A.M., Rogue Credit Union 1330 Poplar Drive, Medford (at the corner of McAndrews and Poplar.)

**Sunday, December 10, 2023**, AAUW annual Christmas party, Sun Oaks Club House 2485 Sun Oaks Drive, Medford (located near St. Mary's School.) Once again, Kathy Swarts has graciously offered to coordinate this festive holiday gathering.

**Saturday, January 6, 2024**, 9:30 A.M. Social gathering, Program at 10:00 A.M., Rogue Credit Union 1330 Poplar Drive, Medford (at the corner of McAndrews and Poplar.)

**Saturday, February 3, 2024**, 9:30 A.M. Social gathering, Program at 10:00 A.M., Rogue Credit Union 1330 Poplar Drive, Medford (at the corner of McAndrews and Poplar.)

**Saturday, March 2, 2024**, 9:30 A.M. Social gathering, Program at 10:00 A.M., Rogue Credit Union 1330 Poplar Drive, Medford (at the corner of McAndrews and Poplar.)

**Thursday, April 4, 2024**, 5:30 P.M., Social, meeting starts at 6:00, Sun Oaks Club House, 2485 Sun Oaks Drive, Medford (located near St. Mary's School.)

**Saturday, May 4, 2024**, 4:00-6:00 PM, Sun Oaks Club House, Scholarship Acknowledgement meeting,

**Saturday, June 1, 2024**, 9:30 A.M. Social gathering, Program at 10:00 A.M., Rogue Credit Union 1330 Poplar Drive, Medford (at the corner of McAndrews and Poplar.)

**PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO WEAR  
YOUR AAUW NAMETAG AT OUR  
MEETINGS!**



## ***THE MUSINGS ARTICLES DUE DATE!***

**THE MUSINGS is published bi-monthly.**  
Please submit items to any Musings committee member (see pg. 10 for member list) by **FRIDAY, DEC. 15TH** for the JAN/FEB 2024 issue.

**WHEN SUBMITTING YOUR INPUT, BE SURE TO USE "MUSINGS" IN THE SUBJECT LINE.**  
(send to [sgheath2@outlook.com](mailto:sgheath2@outlook.com))  
*(We appreciate your photos — fun, grandchildren, vacations, gardens, etc.)*

## **NOVEMBER MEETING**

SATURDAY, NOV. 4

9:30 A.M.

ROGUE CREDIT UNION  
(1330 Poplar Dr., Medford)



### ***"Meet the (Local) Press"***

We welcome our November guest speaker, **David Sommers**, publisher of the **Rogue Valley Times**—a new publication launched by Oregon-based EO Media Group in early 2023 to serve Jackson County and Southern Oregon. He will talk about the challenges publishing a new paper after the closure of the Medford Tribune.

Mr. Sommers has worn many hats throughout his career, including:

- CEO of Pacific Community Media and as Publisher of the Long Beach Post and Long Beach Business Journal, one of the largest local media organizations in Southern California.
- Chief Operating Officer of Pacific6 Enterprises, a \$300 million private equity fund, where he helped lead the company's highest-priority initiatives and managed day-to-day corporate operations, including finance, human resources, real estate development and major capital projects.
- Chief communications executive and lead spokesperson for the County of Los Angeles, an organization with over 100,000 employees and a budget of over \$43 billion.
- Associate Vice President of Human Resources at Molina Healthcare, a Fortune 150 company with over 25,000 employees nationwide, where he led company-wide internal communications, employee engagement and many executive communications responsibilities.

Mr. Sommers started his journalism career as a newscast producer at NBC affiliates in Idaho and Oregon and is the son of retired Salvation Army officers and a graduate of California State University, Sacramento.

Sommers and his wife, Anne-Marie Pedersen, a college professor in composition and rhetoric, are parents to 12-year-old son, Aaron, and nine-year-old daughter Hazel.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!  
BUFFET CELEBRATION  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10TH**



**4:00-6:30 PM**

**SUN OAKS CLUBHOUSE**

2485 Sun Oaks Drive, Medford (Behind St. Mary's School)  
(Carpooling advised)  
Please **RSVP Kathy Swarts**  
([jandkswarts@charter.net](mailto:jandkswarts@charter.net))

Please bring a gift (warm clothing items for men and women, packs of toiletry items) for St. Vincent de Paul (more details to come).

(Note: The Planning Committee will be meeting Thurs., Nov. 2th. MORE DETAILS to come. If you're interested in being involved in planning, contact Kathy Swarts.



**OREGON AAUW 100 YEARS!!**

Our next AAUW State Convention will be held in the spring of 2025, and we will be celebrating the people and accomplishments of the last 100 years in Oregon branches. Gloria Holland is putting together a Readers' Theater presentation to be performed at that convention. She is looking for our input on the people and events that our branch would like to highlight.

It can be in narrative form, as in this example of a brief narrative that was shared at the 100th year celebration for the Salem Branch:

*"We here in Oregon are proud to know that we were the first state to hold a primary election entirely by mail. Of course, hundreds of people throughout the state worked for years on the Vote by Mail effort, and one of those was our own Rae Everitt. As State Public Policy Chair, Rae testified many times at the legislature and cheered when the bill was finally passed. Today, Rae lives in a retirement home, where she continues to register people to vote."*

It can also be written up using the AAUW OREGON: CELEBRATING 100 YEARS! form.

If you have ideas or questions, Contact Monica Weyhe, Carol Koszyk or Lisa Hughes. By November 22.

**2023-2024 RCC SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS  
CONGRATULATIONS — AND WELCOME TO  
MEDFORD AAUW!!**

**Autumn Sanger \$2700**

**Melissa Odonnell \$2700**

**Zitong Yan \$2700**



**MUWCF Report**

On September 27 an enthusiastic group enjoyed a delightful evening with the show, "Cabaret". So many people helped make this a successful event, totaling **\$3,360** in ticket sales! which goes toward National AAUW programs. We sold exactly 112 tickets which was the same as last year. Vikki Piper and Ellen Jones again ran a very successful wine raffle with **\$945** raised for local scholarships. Sandi Cameron was a winner of a case of wine! Thank you all for inviting and bringing your friends to our Fundraiser.

At the last MUWCF meeting, the board discussed a fundraiser for next year. It was agreed to propose to the general members that we participate again. The performance will be a comedy called "Scapino" on **September 18, 2024**. There will be a slight price increase primarily due to purchasing rights to produce shows. —*Mary Gillespie, MUWCF Liaison to the AAUW Board*

*(THANK YOU, MARY, FOR LEADING US IN THIS FUN AND SUCCESSFUL EFFORT!)*

## Where Do Our Donation Dollars Go?

If you have bought a ticket for a Camelot Theater show that was sponsored by AAUW; contributed to the Phantom Tea Party; or perhaps you worked at a fund raising event in past years (The Garden Tour, Children's Festival or Step Into Spring Dance, to name a few):

### Where did the net money go?

When I first joined the Medford Branch of AAUW in early 1997, there were different fund raisers for specific purposes. I did not understand what the differences were, but I was happy to become involved to help advance women. Now, fast forward to today.

Now, we basically have two "pots" where we direct our AAUW Medford Branch dollars; and both "pots" - **1 AND 2** - assist women and girls.

**1. AAUW NATIONAL:** is the umbrella that all local AAUW branches are under. Our branch follows rules that National sets up that we must abide to be affiliated. AAUW National has many funds that it operates for the benefit of women. When we send our donation dollars to AAUW National - it provides money for a variety of awards and efforts.

**a. AAUW Funds:** Provides American Fellowships for graduate students; Community Action Grants; International Fellowships and International Project Grants; Research Publication Grants in Engineering, Medicine and Science and selected Professional Fellowships.

Some specific examples are:

- (1) Fund 9110 - Unrestricted, so monies go the areas of greatest needs.
- (2) Fund 4336 - Educational Opportunities Fund
- (3) Fund 4449 - Economic Security Fund with pay equity and retirement security.
- (4) Fund 4550 - The Eleanor Roosevelt Fund that honors an individual, project, organization or institution for outstanding contributions to equality and education for women and girls.
- (5) The Legal Advocacy Fund - please know that this fund is now fully endowed in perpetuity and no longer needs donations. I wanted to mention it, because was it was originally started by a fellow Oregonian, Kappy Eaton, of Eugene, in order to aid women fighting discrimination on college and university campuses. This fund has been a great favorite of our branch member donors.

**NOTE:** In recent years, the money sent to AAUW Funds has been fund-raised through the Camelot Theater ticket sales and gifts In Memoriam. Please do know that Mary Wright Gillespie, our AAUW Funds Chairperson, would be happy to take any monetary donation that any member or person would like to give and forward it to National!

**b. Our Medford Branch** has funded additional Fellowships and Grants under the National AAUW umbrella. The funds listed below were developed to honor members of our branch.

- (1) Peggy Ann Hutchison International Fellowship
- (2) Kenneth McGraw Memorial Fund
- (3) Sharon Purkerson Humbolt Inc. Fund

**2. LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS:** Our Medford AAUW branch gives scholarship money to women going to SOU, RCC and various young girls' camps (e.g. "AWSEM" which stands for Advocates for Women in Science, Engineering and Math, and is a one-day event for 6-8th grade students, and Academy which is week-long residential camp at SOU for 5 - 8 graders.)

We fund our scholarships through our 501(c)(3), the Medford University Women Charitable Fund (MUWCF). We established MUWCF so donors could receive a tax deduction when they donated money or items to our local scholarship fund. We began the process to establish our 501(c)(3) in January of 2014; and our application was approved by September of 2015!

**NOTE:** In recent years, the money given for local Scholarships has been raised through our Phantom Tea Party, raffle ticket sales for the case of wine at the Camelot Theater event, and gifts In Memoriam.

I hope this helps you all to understand where your donation dollars go. Perhaps there are other questions that you may have. Perhaps you have other ideas for raising funds. If you do - please do call me (or any other person on the Board. The names are on the back page of this Musings and the numbers and emails are in your directory). I would love to hear from you!

Carol Koszyk



### WANTED!! STEaM Director

#### Job Description

An Appointed, Voting Officer on the Medford AAUW Board

#### Responsibilities:

Note that for our branch, we include an "A" for Art, as we want to encourage the Arts, as well. In regard to the National and State - we use the STEM title.

Be the liaison for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) at the National and State level. This includes receiving information from same via email (or other communication); and when deemed necessary, informing our branch board and/or members.

Be the coordinator for any STE(A)M projects that our branch does. Past projects included a Readers Theater program about Women in STE(A)M and a planned, one day event for 6th grade girls that was cancelled due to COVID.

Write articles for the Musings as needed.

Attend Board Meetings as a voting member (4 -5 a year)

Per our Bylaws, submit reports to the President as requested.

Contact Lisa Hughes for information or if you're interested.



Congratulations to Charlotte Park!!

Carol Koszyk presented our long time member, **Charlotte Park**, with a "50-Year Membership Certificate" at our September meeting. !

Follow and "Like" our Facebook page, AAUW Medford OR



- 5th Marcia Simon
- 7th Connie Smith
- 10th Monica Weyhe
- 14th Alicia Van Riggs
- 19th Paulette Avery
- 20th Lan Roberts
- 23rd Pat Dege
- 24th Sherry Schroeder
- 25th Anne Pelish
- 30th Joan Rycraft

- 1st All Saint's Day
- 4th Book Lovers Day
- 5th Daylight Savings Ends
- 7th Election Day
- 11th Veterans Day
- 13th World Kindness Day
- 23rd Thanksgiving Day
- 25th Small Business Day
- 27th Cyber Monday



- 1st Sandi Cameron
- 4th Bea Frederickson
- 4th Mary Wright Gillespie
- 13th Jean Foley
- 14th Carolyn Schenler
- 23rd Carole Chumbler
- 26th Carole Grady
- 26th Marlene Olson
- 27th Gayle Clason



- 1st World Aids Awareness Day
- 5th 21st Amendment ends Prohibition
- 7th 1st Night of Hanukkah
- 7th Pearl Harbor Day
- 10th Int'l Children's Day
- 15th Bill of Rights Day
- 21st Winter Solstice
- 23rd Festivus (for the rest of us)
- 25th Christmas Day
- 26th Boxing Day & Nat'l Candy Cane Day
- 31st NYE

# New Member Spotlight!

## Katy Cauker

I moved to the Rogue Valley in January or February of 1976 and bought my home in Jacksonville a year later.

I have an art degree from the University A&M in Texas. I did most of my undergraduate work at the University of Texas, and have been a working artist since the early '70's.



In 1995 I have focused my studio work on painting, and began painting on location in 2000 with the Sandgren Paint Out.

I also assisted my husband, Gerald J. Senogles DOM, LAc in the running of Medford Acupuncture Clinic from 1983 until 2021 when he retired.

We enjoyed many years of travel, backpacking, and hiking together. I continue to work in my studio most days, and enjoy working with the landscaping of our property in Jacksonville.

You can find my work for purchase and more information online through these links;

I am also on FB and Instagram but seldom have time there now.

Blog:  
<https://www.artworkarchive.com/profile/katy-cauker/news>

Websites:  
<https://www.kcgallery6.com/>  
[www.katvcauker.com](http://www.katvcauker.com)  
<https://www.artworkarchive.com/profile/katy-cauker>

<https://artshine.org/artist/katy-cauker/>



Hello all!

I'm **Connie Smith**. I have lived in the Rogue Valley for 22 years! After moving out of our home in California we took our 10 year old daughter and traveled around the US for 1 1/2 years. We explored but we also were looking for a new place to settle. Glad we settled here!

I worked as a RN in Home Health, most of my career. I've been retired 9 years. I enjoy traveling, reading, playing games, hiking, listening to music, cooking and spending time with family and friends!



*Welcome, Katy and Connie !!*

## GENERAL MEETING RECAP

### September 2nd

Guest speaker: Judie Salter

Judie has been a member of Medford AAUW since 2020. She has led a truly remarkable life.



Judie described her work pathway beginning at 7 years old when she picked cotton in California. Money became important to her as she was caring for two children and her parents. Judie worked as a librarian for the schools but made very little, so transferred to a law library position in a California prison for a higher salary, first at Corcoran where Charles Manson, Sirhan Sirhan, and Juan Corona were incarcerated. She transferred to a lower-level prison--"New Folsom" where she was able to make a difference beyond providing books for inmates. Judie helped inmates with obtaining their GED, and once had a graduation ceremony attended by Arnold Schwarzenegger. Inmates were never allowed to touch their visitors but at graduation were allowed to do so. "Mothers were able to touch their sons for the first time in years." Judie and inmates planned fundraisers; for example, selling Krispy Kreme Donuts and pizza. Funds went to various groups such as a mother's center. Judie described some of the inmates as being well-educated while others could not read. Throughout all this, Judie obtained a paralegal degree and JD.

### October 5th

Guest speaker: Patsy Smullin

Barbara Laskin, Programs VP, introduced speaker **Patsy Smullin**, President of California Oregon Broadcasting, Inc. (COBi), which her father founded in 1933. It is the longest continuously operated, independent broadcast organization in the West. Patsy's experience includes administration and practice, "behind and in front of the camera." Patsy presented two videos, which were followed by a question-and-answer period. The first video showed Patsy being interviewed in celebration of COBi's 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The second video showed Patsy interviewing well-known individuals across the years: Barbara Walters, Barbara Bush, Jenna Bush, Lester Holt, Jay Leno, Hoda Kotb, Dr. Oz, Hillary Clinton, and others. Members asked several questions related to Patsy's experience and the state of news today.



# Fall outings!



October's Wine & Whine at Kriselle Winery (see pg. 8 for schedule info.).



Hi All - I'm in Cazadero, CA at the Hirsch Winery near Fort Ross. — Peg Riehlman



Carol Koszyk and Sandy Heath visit with past-member Yvette McCulley in Florida.



Our place in Ribeauville, Alsace, France.

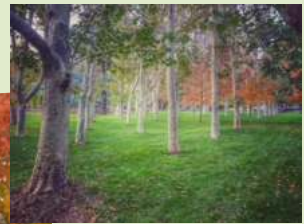


Monica Weyhe in Europe!

In the heart of old Trier, Moselle Valley, Germany, shopping district .



Beautiful glimpses of Fall in Lithia Park and Talent by Paulette Avery.



## Honor to Joyce Ellis

Our local Scholarship Fund has received a very generous contribution in honor of our member, Joyce Ellis. We are very grateful to Patricia Stocker, who lives at Rogue Valley Manor, for recognizing Joyce in this way and enabling more local scholarships.

### Humor

What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire?

Frost bite!



Older issues of **The Musings** are available on our Website: [www.medford-or.aauw.net](http://www.medford-or.aauw.net).

The Ashland branch "**Vision Newsletter**" is available on their website: [www.ashland-or.aauw.net](http://www.ashland-or.aauw.net).

The national AAUW Website has up-to-date information about current issues and involvement: [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

# 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. If you would like to start a new group, contact Kathy Swarts, Interest Groups/ACT Chair.

### MURDER MOST LITERARY

On Thursday, November 9, at 7:00 pm, we meet by Zoom to discuss the topic of Weddings in Mysteries. Joyce Ellis will lead the discussion. On Thursday, December 14 we will again meet at 7:00 to discuss Holiday Mysteries. Mary Wright Gillespie has prepared the bibliography and will lead the discussion.

Mary Wright Gillespie



### 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 2nd Fridays from **1:00-3:00**.

- Friday, Nov. 10th, Carole Grady's home (1222 Pheasant Way, Central Point)
- Friday, Dec. 8th, Lisa Hughes' home

Contact Sandi Cameron for more information: sandicameron@gmail.com; (541)951-9262.  
*Happy stitching!*



### GREAT DECISIONS:

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

Great Decisions meets via Zoom on the second Saturday of each month:

The group will meet Nov. 11th from 9:30am to about 11am.

If you have any questions or would like to join the group discussions, contact Janet Brougher, jjbrougher@gmail.com



### WINE & WHINE!

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



Our next outings:

November 17 - Hummingbird Estate  
1677 Old Stage Rd, Central Point  
December 15 - Edenvale Winery 2310  
Voorhies Rd, Medford

Please RSVP to Vikki Piper by the Monday prior to the get-together  
[vpiper@sti.net](mailto:vpiper@sti.net).

### HAPPY BOOKERS

Happy Bookers meets the third Wednesday of each month at 2 pm., chaired by Monica Weyhe and Robin Smith. The location of each meeting 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.



The next meetings will be on **Nov. 15th and Dec. 20th at 2:00 pm.**

If you would like to join our group or have any questions, contact Robin Smith ([robjag@hotmail.com](mailto:robjag@hotmail.com) or (541) 646-5724) or Monica Weyhe ([monicaw655@gmail.com](mailto:monicaw655@gmail.com) or (541) 326-8042.)

### Morning Book Group 2023-24

Meetings are 1st Monday of month 10:00 AM  
Chetco Room, Plaza Building At RVM

November 6 Leader Liz Caldwell  
The Phone Booth at the Edge of the World  
author-Laura Imai Messina

December 4 Holiday Event 10 AM  
Jackie Baker Residence, 2401 Nieto Way  
Optional: Wrapped book exchange



**First Wednesday Bridge** (same group, new name) meets the first Wednesday of the month.

The group will meet Wednesdays, **Nov. 1st and Dec. 6th**, 11:30 am, at **Rogue Valley Country Club**, for a no-host lunch, and followed by Bridge at 1:00. pm.

Contact Pat Stoddard 541-890-3828 or email [patstoddard@gmail.com](mailto:patstoddard@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining or subbing.



What did Adam say on the day before Christmas?

"It's Christmas, Eve!"





# Interest Groups/ACT\*



## BUNCO GROUP

The Bunco Group continues to have fun! We meet the **first Monday** of the month at 1:00 pm. 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 (emjones57@gmail.com, phone 209-756-3202) if you are interested in being a player.

## The Lunch Bunch

The "Lunch Bunch" is a congenial group of ladies who like to go out for lunch! Our next get-together will be **Monday, November 13th (noon) at Elmer's — 68 East Steward Ave. (Reservations are a must by Friday, Nov. 10th)**

The group meets the second Monday of the month. The participants will decide the next location for the **December 11th** get-together.



Call or text Kathy Swarts at 541-821-7165.

## DINE (Dinner Is Never Enough)

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

**(ON HOLD — A GROUP LEADER IS NEEDED — CONTACT KATHY SWARTS, 541-821-7165)**

## OUT & ABOUT

**(We need suggestions!)**



Community activities are back! (theatre, art shows, music or other events). Anyone may suggest an outing.

All are welcome to attend — Contact Kathy Swarts, 541-821-7165 or Janet Brougher, jjbrougher@gmail.com.

\*ACT — AAUW Community Team

## Interested in volunteering for the Children's Museum of Southern Oregon?

### Join the New Grounds Committee

This volunteer advisory and work committee will help manage and maintain the gardens at the Children's Museum and Ivy School. This can include planning what plants will go in gardens, maintaining a plant database and general maintenance of the grounds (trimming, planting). This committee is important to the continued success of the new outdoor gardens, exhibits and future classroom. The committee will meet the first Saturday of each month unless that Saturday is a holiday weekend. Meetings will generally be scheduled for 2 hours starting at 9 AM.

### POLAR EXPRESS is BACK!!!!

This very popular holiday event will need LOTS of volunteers. We're still planning the fun activities and we will need help Friday through Monday, December 15 to 18. Stay tuned for LOTS of different opportunities including helping with decorating, helping during the event and helping with break down and clean up.

### Spring Bulb Planting and Rose Trimming

Join us for the most popular volunteer work party of the year. We trim all the roses back and plant daffodil and tulip bulbs; laying down the groundwork for beautiful spring flower displays. January 9th - 10 AM to 1 PM. Sign-ups will start in November.

**Want to help but can't volunteer? Here is a list of needed donations:**

- Pumpkins and gourds (all sizes); Magnets (all types)
- Kids' underwear (new, sizes 3T, 4T, 5T)
- Kids' pants (new or gently used, sizes 3T, 4T, 5T)
- Children's backpacks - no characters; Wooden tree cookies
- Nature items like seashells, pinecones, driftwood, acorns etc.
- Willow branches, grape branches (for the new outdoor loom);

All ages are welcome but under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Under 18 requires a guardian's permission. Contact Kristi at [kristi@tcmso.org](mailto:kristi@tcmso.org) or 541-778-0597 (cell) to RSVP or with questions.

To set up a **ZOOM** meeting for your Interest Group or other AAUW gathering, you can email **Vikki Piper** at [vpiper@sti.net](mailto:vpiper@sti.net) with this information: meeting name, meeting date, time and duration; and if this meeting is recurrent. 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](http://aauw.org/Two-minute)

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR MUSINGS  
CONTRIBUTORS!



### Medford University Women Charitable Fund (MUWCF) Board 2023-2024

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 and individuals who want 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](mailto: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  
Vikki Piper, Treasurer  
Mary Gillespie, Liaison to AAUW Board  
Janis Taft, Secretary  
Ellen Jones  
Pat Stoddard  
Sandy Heath



**DON'T FORGET ME...**

**'m always here!**

**I'M YOUR LOCAL AAUW**

**WEBSITE: [medford-or.aauw.net](http://medford-or.aauw.net)**

**Stay informed!**

**Webmaster: Jean Foley**



## Medford AAUW Officers and Board, (July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024)

### Elected Officers (Voting)

- President: *Lisa Hughes*
- 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 and  
Board Meetings: *Carole Grady*

### Appointed Board Members (Voting)

- AAUW Funds: *Mary W. Gillespie*
- Communications Director (& Finance VP,  
AAUW Oregon): *Monica Weyhe*
- Interest Groups/ACT (AAUW Community  
Team) Chair: *Kathy Swarts*  
MUWCF Liaison: *Mary W. Gillespie*
- Public Policy Chair: *Mary Bourne*
- 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, & Carol Koszyk*

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