Looking Ahead

Vote! Nov 4
Membership Meeting Nov 12
November Salon Nov 13
Board Meeting Nov 24
Ashland Library, 3:30
Holiday Party Dec 5

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Rightsizing Your Life, Public Policy, and Appetizers

Join us at our November Membership Meeting.
WEDNESDAY, November 12, from 5 to 7 pm at the Masonic Center, 570 Clover Lane.
Members with last name from A to L: please bring finger food.

Public Policy

What should you know to tell your daughter, granddaughter, or friend if she is sexually assaulted? Deputy Police Chief Corey Falls will describe how the Ashland Police Department is revolutionizing the law enforcement response to sexual assault with its “You Have Options Program.”

Learn How to “Rightsize” Your Life with Barbara Ricketts, aka “The Mess Doctor”

RIGHTSIZE = to undergo a reduction to an optimal size
- Do you have too much “stuff” and are overwhelmed just thinking about it?
- Are you dealing with someone else’s clutter? (spouse, parents, adult children, etc.)
- Do you need help deciding what to keep and what to let go?
- Are you ready to simplify your life but don’t know how?

Does creating a clutter-free home or a simpler lifestyle sound appealing? Come learn the definition of “Rightsizing,” get organizing strategies, and leave with tips to begin the process.

Rightsizing . . . is not just about throwing things out, it is about only having the things around you that you need, use, and bring you joy in life.

Barbara Ricketts has been a professional organizer for over 16 years. She is a member of the National Association of Professional Organizers (NAPO), the Ashland Chamber of Commerce and lives here in Ashland. You can learn more about Barbara at www.theMessDoctor.com.

Mission:

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

Holiday Party—Mark Your Calendar!

Put it on your calendar now and plan to join in the fun and festivities. This will be an appetizer, dessert, and wine party, so start checking out your cooking ideas. Partners and guests are welcome. Details to come by mid-November.

Date: FRIDAY, December 5, 2014
Time: 5:30 to 8:00 pm
Place: Masonic Center, 570 Clover Lane, Ashland
MOVING THE NEEDLE: Women in Engineering and Computing

Our Mission: Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research

Research is one of the four pillars of the AAUW mission. AAUW regularly conducts reviews of the literature and publishes reports on issues important to lives of women and girls. For example, in 2010, Why So Few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics, presented findings regarding environmental and social barriers that block women's participation and progress in the lucrative and cutting-edge STEM fields.

A follow-up study: Moving the Needle: Women in Engineering and Computing, will be released January 2015. The focus of concern is narrowed to engineering and technology, and the truth is disturbing.

The engineering and computing workforce accounts for more than 80 percent of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) jobs, but women remain dramatically underrepresented in these two fields. Women make up just 25 percent of the computing workforce and 14 percent of the engineering workforce. African American, Hispanic, and Native American women are especially underrepresented.

Careers in engineering and computing hold promising prospects for workers: The work can be challenging and rewarding, and computer scientists and engineers are especially well compensated. These opportunities should be more available to women—we’ll see what AAUW recommends in January to improve women’s access to these careers.

But getting more women into STEM fields isn’t only the right thing to do; it's the smart thing to do. The solutions to problems of the century — from providing universal access to health care to eradicating poverty to curing cancer — will require the skills of engineers and computer scientists PLUS the perspectives and approaches that come from diverse minds. When women are not represented in these fields, we’re leaving half our workforce out of the innovation opportunities. We all lose.

“A knowledgeable and skilled woman can build a better society,” said Manasa Potluri, a web developer and programmer at AAUW. Manasa still remembers her first engineering gig, with a remote control car: “I was too young to understand every detail, but I figured it has a motor, and I started reusing that motor for a variety of other applications,” she said, “So I knew that engineering was my destination and I am happy and proud to say that I am an engineer.”

—Bessie Azari

WIN (Women In Need) NEWS

The used book sale at the October meeting raised $70 for much needed bus tokens for the clients of Dunn House. This provides them with the opportunity to get to doctor and legal appointments and job interviews. Funds previously used for bus tokens have been eliminated so the shelter is most appreciative of our support.

In addition, three of our knitters (June Poe, Maureen Wilson-Jarrard, and JoAnn Prujan) have recently completed another 12 fabulous afghans for the women of Dunn House. The shelter has now received enough afghans that not only can they supply a lovely afghan for each bed but they also provide a homemade afghan for each woman to keep. The ladies are thrilled to have such a beautiful gift to grace their new homes as they start their new lives.

Thank you all for your support of Dunn House. You are making a difference.

—Gretchen King

Yes on Measure 89!

Ashland AAUW has endorsed a “yes” vote on Ballot Measure 89, the “Oregon Equal Rights Amendment.” The essential text is: “Equality of Rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the State of Oregon or by any political subdivision in this state on account of sex.”

Does that wording sound familiar? It is the text of the federal Equal Rights Amendment that so many of us worked for in the 1970s, only to fall short when we won only 35 of the 38 required (3/4 of total) state ratifications. Twenty states have amended their constitutions to guarantee these equal rights to women; this year Oregon can join them.

In the 1970s, the ERA was attacked with a scare campaign (led by Phyllis Schlafly—remember her?) that worried about such things as gay rights, women being able to join the military, unisex toilets, and various threats to women’s traditional roles. Most of the supposed dire consequences have already come to pass and have caused no disaster.

So who could be against this Oregon ERA and why? A few conservative newspapers (including the Medford Mail Tribune) and the ACLU have claimed it is not necessary because the Oregon constitution has proclaimed equal rights for all. The measure’s sponsors point out, however, that the 1859 constitutional clause did not deter the state from denying women the right to vote, or to own property, for example. These rights were won only with struggle, and could be taken away, unless we have an explicit statement in the constitution.

AAUW Ashland joins a long list of civil rights organizations (including national AAUW and Oregon League of Women Voters), political groups, and individuals who support this ballot measure. For more information, and a long list of endorsers, go to http://www.voteera.org.

—Sandra Coyner

Vote by November 4!
No meeting was held on September 29. The next scheduled Board Meeting is Monday, November 24.

**Call or e-mail the Coordinator to join a group. For contact info, please see your AAUW Ashland Directory.**

**Arts and Language**

**MUSICALS:** We meet on the 3rd Monday of the month at 4:30 pm, at the home of Ed Perkins--that's November 17 this month. Please bring a snack and drink to share. Coordinator: Nancy Kramarenko

**OPERA GROUP** meets Monday, November 24, at 4 pm, at the home of Ed Perkins. Join us to watch Puccini's "Madame Butterfly" with Patricia Racette in the title role. Bring a hearty appetizer and wine or other beverage to share. For further information, contact: Coordinator: Nancy Kramarenko

**PLAY READING** is taking a break in November and December. Coordinators: Annette Lewis and Carolyn Peake

**SHAKESPEARE AT OSF** will meet only once in November: Wednesday, November 12, at 12:30 at Annette Lewis’s house. Bring “Pericles” script. Coordinators: Annette Lewis and Peggy Audibert

**Book Groups**


**BRAIN BOOKS** will discuss “The Great Divergence: America’s Growing Inequality Crisis and What We Can Do About It” (2012) by Timothy Noah on November 25. Meets 1:30-3:30 on 4th Tuesday at Ashland Public Library. Coordinator: Sandra Coyner

**DAY BOOK GROUP** meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at different members’ homes. On November 19 we will meet at Kay Johnson’s home to discuss Suzanne Joinson’s book “The Lady Cyclist’s Guide to Kashgar.” Our meetings begin at 1 pm and end by 3:00. Light refreshments are served. Please email Kay if you plan on attending. On December 17th we will discuss Kate Chopin’s classic novel “The Awakening” at Jan Waitt’s home. This meeting is our book exchange. Bring a wrapped book you’d like to share and we swap books. Our discussions are lively and enjoyable—and we learn something. Coordinator: Peggy Moore

**EVENING BOOKS:** We meet on the 2nd Monday at 7 pm in the homes of members. Our November 10 book is “The Count of Monte Cristo” by Alexandre Dumas, discussion hosted and led by Jean Conger. We are tackling this long, but wonderful, book in part because OSF will be presenting the play in 2015. Feel free to read the abridged version or watch the movie if you don’t have time to finish an entire unabridged copy! Interested AAUW members are welcome. Coordinators: Sara Walker & Linda Lipkind

**NONFICTION BOOKS:** We meet the 1st Wednesday at 1 pm. Our November 5 book is “Book of Ages: The Life and Opinions of Jane Franklin” by Jill Lepore. The meeting will be hosted by Fran Adams and book discussion led by Linda Lipkind. Ashland AAUW members who enjoy nonfiction reading are invited to join our group. Coordinator: Linda Lipkind

**THURSDAY EVENING MYSTERY** will meet on Thursday, November 13, at 7:00 at the home of Carol Madden to discuss “A Study in Scarlet” by Arthur Conan Doyle. Coordinator: Jean Conger

**Dining, Crafts, Games, and More**

**GOURMET DINING GROUP** meets three times during the year, with dining themes as varied as Moroccan, Chinese, French, Spanish Tapas, and Favorite American Dishes. Coordinators: Sunny Anderson and Elaine Sweet

**POTLUCK GROUP** will meet on Sunday, November 16, at 5 pm for our next dinner. Please bring a dish to share and a bottle of wine and meet at the Sweets: 150 Manzanita. RSVP to Elaine if you plan to come (regrets not necessary). Coordinator: Elaine Sweet

**AFTERNOON BOARD GAMES** meets Thursday, November 20, from 3 to 5 pm at the home of Katharine Lang. Limit 12. RSVP to Fran Adams, fadams@aya.yale.edu, at least two days ahead of the meeting. Coordinator: Fran Adams

**EVENING BOARD GAMES** meets Tuesday, November 4, from 7 to 9 pm at the home of Joan Amarratti. Limit 6. RSVP to Fran Adams, fadams@aya.yale.edu, at least two days ahead of the meeting. Coordinator: Fran Adams

**KNITTERS AND STITCHERS** will meet Thursday, November 13, at the home of Marlyn Barrick at 1:00 pm. Please bring with you a hand project to work on, and RSVP to Marlyn if you are planning to attend. Coordinators: Peggy Audibert and Michaela Rae

**CRAFTAHOLICS:** This new group is open to crafters with any type of portable, self-contained projects (knitting, crocheting, sewing, etc). We will meet the 1st Wednesday in November (11/5) from 7 to 9 pm, at the home of Gayle Turner. RSVP to Gayle and bring a project to work on. Think Christmas! Out next meeting will be on December 3. Coordinator: Gayle Turner

**GENEALOGY:** Because our regularly scheduled Genealogy meeting falls on Thanksgiving, we will meet on Friday, November 21, from 1 to 3 pm, at the Jackson County Genealogy Library, 3405 S. Pacific Hwy. Any Ashland AAUW member interested in family research (beginning or advanced) who would like to share discoveries and tips with the group is welcome. We will help you get started. Coordinators: Linda Lipkind & Sara Weber
Many $$$ 4 Scholars—Thank you!

We can ALL feel very pleased about our efforts—$$$ 4 Scholars grossed more than $8,000!

Our proceeds will be applied to matching an anonymous member’s $15,000 grant to Ashland AAUW’s SOU Endowment Fund, so the money will generate earnings every year.

The burden of the hard work was carried by the six coordinators: Bessie Azari and Rae Otto, Sandy Theis and Elaine Hamlin, and Sunny Anderson and Jean Conger—enormous thanks to them. Thanks also to our generous garage hosts Laurie Carter, Diane Novak, and Barbara Willson.

Elaine Sweet and Kori Calvert did a superb job with our Café, and our Branch always has great bakers who come through. Suzanne and John Duncan did much of the heavy lifting with needed truck pick-ups and deliveries. Richard and Pat Brewer took care of the interior signage, and Mimi Pippel made and placed our directional signs. Diane Novak ran the wine raffle.

We made a lot of customers happy—including many of our own members. Thanks to everyone who worked, who contributed items, who bought some of those wonderful items. It was especially gratifying to see so many of our new members jumping in to work.

—Chris Donchin, Chair

Charitable Partners

These three members have pledged to make a donation to the AAUW/SOU Scholarship Fund every time an AAUW member uses their services or refers someone who uses their services.

**Julie Downey**, Broker
Gateway Real Estate
541 261 -7939
[www.gateway-realestate.com/julie-downey](http://www.gateway-realestate.com/julie-downey)

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At Laurie & Bob Carter’s home. from (L), Sandy Theis, Mimi Pippel, Liz Murphy, Kori Calvert, Chris Donchin, Elaine Sweet, Elaine Hamiin. Seated: Kathy Gorman and Carol Mockridge.


Rae Otto, Pat Brewer, Bessie Azari with yard sale items for Dollars for Scholars.

Margaret Scarborough, Sylvia Whitman

Pat Knoble, Cheryl Goldman

Matching Grant

Last December, one of our members offered a matching grant of $15,000 for our SOU Endowment, and AAUW Ashland will meet that goal by December 31 of this year.

In addition to awarding a record number of scholarships last May (totally $22,000!), AAUW Ashland raised an additional $5200 that was specifically earmarked for matching the grant.

This fall, due to the success of $$$ 4 Scholars, another $8000 will be applied to the matching funds, making our new total $13,000. We are just $2000 shy of the goal.

Thanks to everyone for their generosity and hard work!

—Christine Fernlund, Endowment Committee
October Meeting

Sandra Coyner, Don Morris, Ricardo Lujan, John Almaguer, and Representative Peter Buckley presented information on upcoming ballot measures.

Peggy Smith addressed the audience about the GMO ballot measure.

Karen Spence and Linda Lipkind greeted members and guests.

Kathy Brandon and Mimi Pippel

Our New Website!

AAUW Ashland now has a new website and it is something to be proud of. With the help of the AAUW National website specialist, Megan Morrison, and our Designing Divas Team, we have created a site that we can update easily. Many thanks to Carol Mockridge, Pat Brewer, Sandra Coyner, Diane Novak, and Mimi Pippel for gathering information from our board members, our old webpage, and various other resources.

The new site has our Directory inside a “Members Only” section that can only be accessed with our password. We have information about our interest groups, our fundraising events, membership, our calendar, as well as some of the history of our organization. We will continue to identify and add more things, such as an inventory of our supplies, information about using the projector at the Masonic, and much more.

Be sure to go online and check it out, and if you see something you think should be added please let a member of our team know. I’m sure you will also enjoy seeing pictures of our members, which we will be adding to. Many thanks to Alice Mallory and Linda Lipkind for providing us some excellent photos of our group! We are a sharp looking bunch, don’t you think?!

The website address, which is listed in your Directory is ashland-or.aauw.net.

Ashland Vision

is a monthly newsletter of the Ashland, Oregon, Branch of AAUW

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Co Presidents: Mimi Pippel and Judy Shih
Financial Officer: Christine Fernlund
Recording Secretaries: Peggy Moore and Christine Fernlund
Membership Chair: Karen Spence
Public Policy Chairs: Regina Ayars and Phyllis Fernlund
Contact Secretary: Rosemary Adalian

Newsletter Team
Editors: Pat Brewer, Rae Otto
Layout: Chris Licata
Photographer: Alice Mallory
Readers: Karen Leng, Alice Mallory

Newsletter deadline is the 15th of the month. Photos of interest group activities are welcome.

AAUW Ashland Website:
www.aauwashland.org

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership.
There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.