

ASHLAND VISION

BREAKING THROUGH BARRIERS

APRIL 2019

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ASHLAND, OREGON BRANCH



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Looking Ahead

| | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Equal Pay Day | April 2 |
| April Annual Meeting | April 9 |
| Lobby Day | April 11 |
| State Convention | April 12-14 |
| Upscale Sale | May 18-19 |
| District Election | May 21 |

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

April Annual Presidents Meeting



Please join us Tuesday, April 9, at 5 pm in the Gallery Room on the upper floor of SOU's Stevenson Union for our Annual Presidents' meeting and to congratulate the recipients of the 2018 Florence Schneider and Named Gift Honoree awards.

The Florence Schneider award will be presented to a member who has shown outstanding service and leadership to the Branch. Florence Schneider was an active member of AAUW and the greater Ashland community, and the award honors someone who exemplifies her spirit. The 2018 Named Gift Honorees will be recognized for their meritorious service to our Branch.

For the April meeting, the presidents set the agenda. We will have presentations from two of our own members, Sandy Theis and Irene Kai. Sandy is serving as chair of the Ashland Senior Services Advisory Committee and will present information about aging in Ashland, the requirements of elders, and the support from the Parks and Rec Senior Services Division. Irene spoke to the United Nations in March at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, presenting Ashland as a leading and innovative International City of Peace and highlighting our World Peace Flame Monument. She will share her impressions from the UN. We are fortunate to have such dedicated members working on local, state, and national women's issues share their experiences with us.

—Gretchen King & Pam Shay

When: Tuesday, April 9, 5-7:30 pm
Where: SOU Stevenson Union, the Gallery Room

Calendar: 2018-2019

April 1, 2019
➔ **Deadline to Register for the AAUW Oregon State Convention 2019**

April 9, 2019—TUES, 5-7:30 pm

AAUW Ashland Annual Meeting:
Election and Installation of officers,
Florence Schneider &
Named Gift Honoree Awards
The Gallery Room, Stevenson Union, SOU

April 11, 2019

Oregon Lobby Day
at the State Capitol

April 12-14, 2019

AAUW Oregon State Convention 2019
Salem Convention Center

May 18-19, 2019

Upscale Sale *Bellview Grange*

May 22, 2019—WED., 5:30-8:30 pm

Celebration of Scholars
Rogue River Room, Stevenson Union, SOU

June 29, 2019—SAT., 10 am-2 pm

Annual Board Retreat
Ashland Public Library, Gresham Room

Save the Date: Celebration of Scholars

This event is a favorite and is both joyful and heartwarming. Please plan to attend and to help make the evening special. This culmination of our scholarship drive is a chance to meet and hear from the scholarship recipients and their families, and to hear their stories.

Please put Celebration of Scholars on your calendars now. As with any big event, we'll need your help with greeting, finger foods, and clean-up and other tasks. Some of you will be asked to mentor the scholarship winners and help to introduce them. Please say yes when you're asked.

—Sherri Morgan and Sandy Theis, Co-chairs

When: Wednesday, May 22, 5:30-8 pm
Where: SOU Stevenson Union, Rogue River Room



I don't think April is officially AAUW month, but by the looks of my calendar it should be. The first scheduled event is Tuesday, April 9, our last Branch meeting of 2018–19. This Annual meeting

highlights our members: the Florence Schneider Award recipient, the Named Gift Honorees, and this year Sandy Theis and Irene Kai. But April is filled with more events and ways to advance our mission.

Student Success is the topic of this year's Lobby Day April 11, and I hope Ashland will have a good representation in Salem to present our concerns to our legislators. Top priorities for discussion in Salem include an increase in the number of positions for the state-wide Title IX coordinator and age discrimination. Talk with Paula Wiiken, our public policy chair, if you are interested in attending.

The Oregon State Convention starts in Salem Friday, April 12. This will be my 4th state convention, and I always come home with renewed friendships and fresh ideas, inspired by the leaders across Oregon. The deadline to register is April 1. Kimberly Churches, AAUW Chief Executive Officer, will be speaking. Kimberly is an impressive young vivacious leader who brings enthusiasm to the Washington office. I am anxious to meet her and hear her remarks. The weekend will be filled with engaging workshops and opportunities to learn from other branches (see page 6).

—Gretchen King

If your schedule precludes trips to Salem, there are numerous opportunities to get involved at home with our Branch this month.

- Carryl Breon will again be coordinating the AAUW support of the AWSEM program at SOU April 13, encouraging middle school girls to consider STEM careers—call her to help.
- Sherri Morgan and Sandy Theis will be looking for committee members for the Celebration of Scholars event. It takes a lot of volunteers to host this awe-inspiring celebration.
- Sandra Coyner will be sending out an all-member survey in April. One of our Branch goals in the strategic plan is to ensure member satisfaction, and we can do that only with input from each of you.
- You will be getting calls from the Upscale Sale committee members asking for your time and donations for the sale.
- Join SOU women for Denim Day on April 24 at 11:30 am. See page 7.
- Pam has formed a nominating committee for next year's program and project chairs and would like to identify some relatively new members for many of these positions. Please give serious consideration to actively participating in Ashland AAUW's future. Many of the requests require very limited time commitments. You will find it rewarding.

Our membership is amazingly generous, and whether you support our myriad of causes with your time, talents, or monetary contributions, you are important to the future of Ashland AAUW.

We had 46 members and 8 visitors attend Julie Benezet's excellent facilitation and presentation at the March 14 branch meeting: "Leading and Succeeding in the 21st Century" with a panel of 3 dynamic women leaders in the health, automotive, and communications sectors of Southern Oregon business.

Our next meeting, on April 9 will be the Election and Installation of Officers, and the Florence Schneider and Named Gift Honoree awards. Please make sure to attend this informative and celebratory meeting in the Gallery Room at SOU.

You will be able to pick up your own renewal forms at the Membership and Registration Desk at this April 9 meeting. You will only be allowed to pick up your own form, unlike what we did with directories, where you could bring your neighbor's home to her if she was unable to attend. Every form picked up in person saves AAUW a stamp, so please make an effort to pick up your renewal form at the Membership Desk.

Enjoy the beautiful Spring weather!

—Catherine Lutes, Membership Chair

In Our Thoughts

E-greetings have been sent to **Margaret Karsten** to cheer her on as she has a second procedure on a knee following a replacement that became infected, as well as to **Caroline Morse**, her sister, who is with her back east where the procedure is scheduled.

An e-greeting was sent to **Sally Peterson**, who broke one of her humerus bones while skiing. Fortunately it is healing well and will not require surgery.

E-greetings have been sent to **Carol Custodio, Suzanne Duncan,** and **Pam Larsen** to let them know that they are being thought of.

—Rosemary Adalian, Contact Secretary



The 2019–2020 Member Directory

Production on the 2019–2020 AAUW Ashland Member Directory is underway. Please review your copy from last year and if you have any corrections or changes, please submit them in an email to Chris Licata with "Directory Correction" in the subject line of the email.

Placing a business card ad in our directory helps with our limited budget for printing. If you love the look of this year's directory and you'd like to see more color in the next one, please consider taking out an ad to help offset the cost of printing. To have your business card ad appear in the new directory, mail your business card and a check for \$30 before June 30 to:

AAUW Ashland, 2305 Ashland St. Suite C #406, Ashland, OR 97520

—Chris Licata

In Her Own Words

Climate Change Challenge: Two Paths

Edited by Wanda Chin, Scholarship Committee Co-Chair

Two of our scholars tell us about how the challenge of climate change has motivated each of them to continue on in their studies in order to work professionally on these issues.

Pre-engineering student Isabella Ruikis at Rogue Community College is also a GEOS intern and she is moving forward in environmental engineering.

Samara Diab, SOU's last French major, has been able to customize her studies at SOU to prepare for law school. A *Daily Tidings* article (May 25, 2018) about Celebration of Scholars records: "I want to eventually work with refugees," Diab said. "I'm driven to provide security and empathy for these individuals and I know that with climate change on the horizon, there's going to be a dramatic increase in these climate change refugees. It's a new need that's developing and I'd like to be there to assist in any way that I can."



**Isabella Ruikis—
Pre-engineering, Rogue Community College, GEOS intern**

"The field of Environmental Engineering still fascinated me, but I was suddenly unsure of where to transfer at a very crucial time. With this in mind, my friend Narmada invited me along on a winter break trip to Nepal, where she was born and raised.

"Being in Nepal was so different than anything I had ever experienced. I was so lucky to be spending that time with Narmada as my cultural guide. Two experiences in Pokhara influenced my goals back home: teaching and trekking. At Narmada's uncle's school in Pokhara, I assisted professors in both Physics and Chemistry classes. In Chemistry, I jumped in on a lab I had done back home—determining the identity of an unknown solution through a series of chemical tests. In Physics, students studied the refraction of light, and I helped explain Snell's Law in simple terms. Teaching in Nepal helped me apply my studies in practical ways with eager students!

"Narmada and I embarked on a 4-day trek through the Himalayan hills. My heart was light in these hills, just as it is in the temperate rainforests of Oregon. Narmada translated questions for me to locals about the climate, wildlife, and environmental issues of the area. I was surprised to hear that everyone we spoke to was facing the detrimental effects of climate change already. The melting glaciers of the Himalayas and the increasingly severe climate subject mountain communities to landslides, critical weather conditions, and flooding. This tourist destination was crumbling beneath our feet



while we admired its beauty. During our trek, Narmada and I continued speaking with Sherpas, guides, and locals about the issues of the area, attempting to get an authentic perspective on local issues.

"Upon my return from Nepal, I knew in my heart that I needed to stay in Oregon to finish my Bachelor's degree. I have decided to transfer to Oregon State University this autumn 2019. OSU's Environmental Engineering program is the perfect fit—it's rigor, commitment to sustainability, and progressive structure appeal to me.

It seems ironic that I had to travel across the globe to realize that I wanted to stay in my home state. In Nepal, I felt my heart expand, and it was clear to me that there was so much more to explore everywhere, my homeland included.

"AAUW Ashland's contribution to my education made this experience possible for me. I couldn't thank this organization enough. This experience has helped me grow in ways I didn't think were tangible for someone from my low-income background, and has inspired me to explore the world around me so much more!"



Left: Isabella Ruikis, summiting on Poon Hill, Himalayan Hills, Nepal

Right: Isabella assisted in teaching chemistry and physics at a school in Pokhara, Nepal.

All photos by Narmada Dhakal

**Samara Diab—
SOU Honors College**

"I have been accepted to the University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law where I intend to pursue a dynamic combination of immigration/asylum law and international trade law. Both these fields of legal study focus on movements and interactions across international borders, emphasizing the importance of strengthening global connections and cooperation.

"In order to complete my Juris Doctor (JD), I will spend the next three years studying in Tucson, AZ. I am the recipient of the Dean's Achievement Award Scholarship which will pay my tuition and fees for the three years. I am deeply committed to the value of public education and therefore believe strongly that the University of Arizona will be a perfect way for me to receive prestigious legal education, give back to the community, and demonstrate the value of public universities."



Samara Diab gives February talk at AAUW Ashland.

March to a Million... "Ensuring Education for the Future"

\$1,000,000

We invite you to join the AAUW Ashland Branch in an exciting opportunity to raise \$500,000 in bequests and cash gifts to the SOU Endowment Fund. A generous, anonymous donor has pledged a bequest to match that amount. That means that we could

potentially establish a \$1 million SOU Endowment Fund that would annually provide several SOU scholarships in perpetuity! Your gift, now, to the SOU Endowment Fund will continue to have an impact on higher education for women in the Rogue Valley forever!



For information on how to give a cash gift or how to set up a bequest to the SOU Endowment Fund, please email or call Jean Conger, Endowment Committee Chair.



AAUW Endowment Fund Interview with Alice Mallory

Thanks to Alice Mallory, who has contributed to the AAUW Endowment Fund by transferring from her RMD (required minimum distribution) of her IRA. (Read about RMDs in Kate Wolf-Pizor's article in the March 2019 Vision.)
—Jean Conger

Educational experience: How did a college education influence your career options? Did you put yourself through school?

When I was seven, my mother went to work at a local bank to supplement my father's income and to save toward a small college account for my two sisters and me. With a modest scholarship and financial support from those savings, in my freshman year I attended Whittier College, transferring as a sophomore to Cal State Los Angeles for a more affordable option. I commuted to Cal State and taught piano lessons to beginning students in order to attain my BA and teaching credential toward my goal of teaching in a low-income urban school.

What were your reasons for supporting the AAUW endowment fund and education for women?

Throughout my career of teaching children who lived in a large public housing project and privately-owned apartment complex in Los Angeles, I witnessed the lack of financial resources and support for low-income students (especially girls) to attain a college education. The stories from AAUW scholarship recipients reinforce the impact that WE, as University Women, can and do have on the future success of financially struggling students right here in the

Rogue Valley. My contribution is in support of what we can do together to assist women in perpetuity and in gratitude to my parents for encouraging and supporting my sisters and me to earn college degrees.

How did the transfer from your RMD work? Were there any problems?

The transfer was seamless. I initiated it by requesting a Qualified Charitable Distribution form from my IRA issuer. That form required the name of my designated 501-C organization (SOU Foundation), to whom the issuer mailed a check directly from my account. The issuer notified me of receipt of my request and of the distribution of my funds, and I promptly received an acknowledgment from SOU.

When did you join AAUW? Did someone invite you to join, or had you been a member in California?

I had long heard about AAUW from a friend in California, and at the invitation of my Ashland neighbor Stef Seffinger, I became a member in 2010 following my retirement and move to Ashland with my husband, Darryl. I was Branch photographer from 2010–2018, am on the WIN team, have worked on Garden tours, serve as a proofreader for our (award-winning) Vision newsletter, and currently belong to Opera, Potluck, and Movie Musicals interest groups.

The Buzz is On!

May 18 & 19, 2019

Upscale Sale at the Bellview Grange

Saturday 9 to 3pm, 8:30 early birds pay \$5

Sunday 12n to 2pm, half-price sale



Three Sales in One

Yard sale — Bake sale — Wine case raffle

Jean Conger and Cheryl Goldman are gathering donated UPSCALE BOTTLES of wine to fill out 2 cases. Raffle tickets will be sold during the sale: \$5 per ticket or 3 tickets for \$10. Members can purchase their tickets at the April Branch meeting or at the sale.

Winners Receive a Case of Various Upscale Bottles of Wine!

Dear members who have yet to gather your donations:

Marie Kondo, in her book *The Life-changing Magic of Tidying Up*, advises (as you look at your possessions):

"It's important to hold each item and ask whether it is something that brings you joy." (Kondo compares feeling joy to "when you hold a puppy or wear your favorite outfit"—you'll get a "warm and fuzzy feeling.") "If you don't," she tells us, "thank it and let it go."

—Bessie Azari and Paula Wiiken

Towel Drive for Dunn House a Success



Thanks to our members' generosity, WiN was able to purchase 100 towels and washcloths for Dunn House. Thank you!



Marching Forward after Women's History Month

"As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands. One for helping yourself, the other for helping others."
—Audrey Hepburn

Women help themselves and they help one another. We just go ahead and make things happen because we know that we're all in this together. My grandmother, who had an elementary school education, decided that her daughter was going to college. She organized a family scholarship system with three different families working on ways to make that college education happen. Her daughter achieved a doctorate at a time when she was the only woman in her graduate program and was told by the chair of her program that she should "be home cooking and taking care of her family instead of taking up a man's place in graduate school." My father offered to go to the school and punch the professor. Fortunately, my mom decided she could handle that one in her own way.

In America we celebrate the cult of individualism. However, in reality, everyone achieves because others participate in helping and believing and encouraging. I am so proud and happy that AAUW does all three of those important jobs regularly and annually. Women's History Month is only one month, but we can continue to make history throughout the year. Together we can achieve what none of us can achieve alone: We can ensure that several young women will be at RCC and SOU because we have cared and participated and we do it over and over again.

Creative ways to fund:

1. Tell your kids the story of how you got educated and tell them you would love to have your birthday, anniversary, or other holiday of choice celebrated by a contribution to the AAUW scholarship funds (BTW, we'll send them a thank-you letter (of course, the gift is deductible) and a card to you!
2. Talk with your family and friends about how proud you are to be a part of making the world a better place by helping to send women to college.
3. Donate to the Upscale Garage Sale and tell your friends and neighbors about the cool stuff at that sale. Also, have your own garage sale and donate the money to AAUW scholarship funds.
4. Don't forget that many employers match donations to charity (many for retirees as well).
5. Remember that RMD distribution we talked about last month.
6. Consider leaving money to the AAUW scholarship funds in your will.

Thank you for your commitment to AAUW. Let's make women's history a history of inclusion and abundance every month. By the way, I'm proud of you too! You've come a long way and achieved a lot.

—Kate Wolf-Pizor

ACH Foundation Honors Sandy Theis

On March 15, the Ashland Community Hospital Foundation awarded Sandy Theis its 2018 Distinguished Service Award at the Foundation's annual Founders Dinner.

The recipient of this award is selected based on volunteer service to the community through Asante ACH and/or ACH Foundation, distinguished by length, intensity, devotion, and significant accomplishment.

Sandy served on the ACH Board of Directors from 2011–2013. Following the hospital's affiliation with Asante in 2013, Sandy has served on the Asante ACH Quality Committee. She has also been a member of the ACH Foundation's Evans Nurse Scholarship Committee since 2013, where she is an invaluable resource regarding trends in nursing and nursing education.

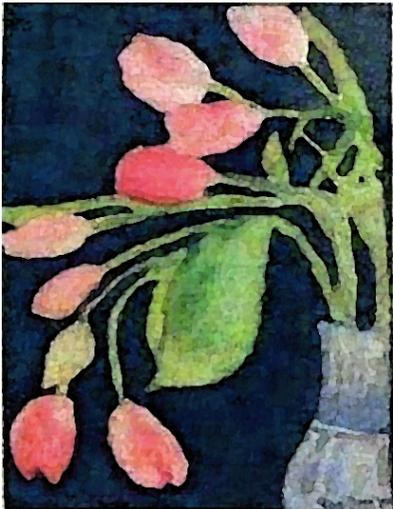
Sandy earned her BS in nursing from Ohio State University, her MS in nursing from University of Colorado, and her PhD in education from Northwestern University. During her career she taught at the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Nursing and served as Associate Dean for academic programs from 1995–2000. In 2000 she served as the OHSU Associate Dean for the Ashland and Klamath Falls campuses. She was a leader in the Oregon Consortium for Nursing Education, President of the Oregon Nursing Leadership Council, and President of the Oregon State Board of Nursing from 2006–2008. Sandy was the Interim Dean for the statewide OHSU School of Nursing from 2006–2008.

In addition to serving as AAUW Co-president for the last two years, Sandy served on the OLLI Council from 2014–2017 and was the OLLI SOU Foundation representative from 2015–2017. She is Chair of the Senior Program Advisory Committee for the City of Ashland, and she chairs the Senior Advisory Committee for the Rogue Valley Council of Governments.

Congratulations, Sandy!

—Janet Troy

The lovely watercolors of flowers and umbrellas in this issue were contributed by Rae Otto.



AAUW Medford Branch

Thursday, April 4, 6–8 pm
Sun Oaks lower clubhouse

Main program:
"Prospect Charter School Projects"

AAUW Grants Pass Branch

Thursday, April 18, 6 pm
Fruitdale Grange

Program:
"Roots to Ridges: Empowering Women
Through Outdoor Activities and Education"

Speaker Crystal Hidde

**AAUW of Oregon
Lobby Day & Convention**

Lobby Day:
Thursday, April 11: 12:30–5:30 pm
at the State Capitol

Contact Paula Wiiken

AAUW of Oregon Convention:

Friday, April 12–14
Salem Convention Center

Contact Gretchen King

**Breaking Barriers
to Leadership**

AAUW of Oregon Convention 2019

Convention Workshop Sessions

"Age Discrimination in Oregon," Jon Bartholomew. Age discrimination hurts many Oregonians every year but is very difficult to prevent or enforce. Find out what advocates are doing, and how you can help improve Oregon's age discrimination laws.

"The Oregon Commission for Women: Proudly Serving the Women and Girls of Oregon from 1964 to Present Day," Kimberly Olson. From public policy research to legislative advocacy, the OCFW uses their seven strategic priority areas and partnerships across the state to support women's equity and ensure success for all women by addressing issues at a policy level.

"Public Policy: Putting Our Values into Action," Trish Garner and Shilpi Banerjee. Gain insights into AAUW's work on our behalf with the Oregon legislature.

"Bridging the Gender Leadership Gap," Kendall Clawson. Learn how AAUW is training and assisting women in securing their leadership goals. Many women ran successfully for office this past year, and we want to carry that momentum forward in all realms of public life.

"Advancing Access to Reproductive Rights and Justice," Emily McClain. Recent gains in reproductive health access in Oregon will be reviewed as well as some comments about national trends.

"Leading with Boldness & Courage: Education Equity in the 21st Century," Dr. Markisha Smith. Understand how equity impacts the role of transformational leaders in systems of oppression.

For details, see this PDF of the Oregon News: <https://aauw-or.aauw.net/files/2019/02/Oregon-News-January-2019-Convention-Issue-final-no-form-1.pdf>

February 25, 2019

STATE CONVENTION

April 1 is the deadline for convention registration. Gretchen and Pam are putting together an AAUW Ashland auction basket filled with specialty food items and chocolate. All suggestions are welcomed.

LIAISON REPORTS

- **Branch Programs:** Co-chairs Sunny Anderson and Diana Versluis report that four programs have been presented this year with the last program being presented March 14 in the Gallery Room.
- **Celebration of Scholars:** Co-chairs Sandy Theis and Sherri Morgan report they will be recruiting volunteers to chair various committees, and will coordinate with Scholarship chairs to find AAUW members to mentor scholarship winners and introduce them at the event.
- **Membership:** Catherine Lutes reports that the New Member Orientation was held January 30 at the home of Carryl Breon. The committee shared information with new members Kerry Kencairn, Channing Penna, Judy Newton, and Linda Thomas. Another orientation will be held in June.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Pam announced that Paula Wiiken has accepted the position of co-president for 2019–2020, and Peggy Audibert, Secretary, and Sonja Friedman, Treasurer, will retain their current positions.

—Peggy Audibert,
Recording Secretary

**Charitable Partners**

These four members have pledged to make a donation to either the AAUW/SOU or AAUW/RCC Scholarship Fund every time an AAUW member uses their services or refers someone who uses their services. We thank them for their generosity and dedication to AAUW.

Liz Murphy, CFP MBA/Financial Advisor
Raymond James Financial Services
541-779-9907
Liz.Murphy@RaymondJames.com
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Annette Pugh, Broker
Gateway Real Estate
541-840-1455
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Dhyan Summers, Licensed
Marriage and Family Therapist
Summers Therapy
541-930-1100
mindfulaction@yahoo.com | Summerstherapy.com

Sara Walker, Broker
Patricia Sprague Real Estate
541-951-5454
sara@hatsoff2u.com | hatsoff2u.com

Equal Pay Day

April 2 = All Women's Equal Pay Day this year in the United States. This date symbolizes how far into the year women must work to earn what men earned in the previous year. The wage gap is even greater for women of color. Black Women's Equal Pay Day is not until August 22. Latinas must work all the way until November 20 to "catch up" to men's earnings from the previous year!

Oregon has enacted a strong equal pay law. Nevertheless our state ranks only 20th in the nation; women here earn 82 cents for every dollar a man does. In contrast women in Alabama and Mississippi work with no equal pay law at all.

This year the US Congress has reintroduced the Paycheck Fairness Act for the 11th (!) time. The bill would require employers to report job salaries, promotions, and dismissals to the federal government, broken down by gender and race. It would also ban wage secrecy and allow workers to sue for pay discrimination. AAUW believes that passing the Paycheck Fairness Act is a critical step to closing the gender pay gap.

—Paula Wiiken, Public Policy committee



Women, especially women of color, must work months longer to earn what men earn in one year.

Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec
 Jan 1 Feb Mar Apr 2 May Jun Jul Aug 22 Sep Oct Nov 20 Dec

Election Coming Up in May!

You may not have heard much about it yet, but we are having a Special District Election in May. On the ballot are Board of Director positions for our local:

- School Districts
- Fire Districts
- Library District
- Rogue Valley Transportation District
- Southern Oregon Education Service District
- Water Districts.

These local elections are critical to our quality of life here in Southern Oregon, so listen up when candidate profiles start appearing in the *Mail Tribune* and the *Daily Tidings*.



Election day is May 21. Are you registered to vote? Check your registration status at the Oregon Secretary of State's website: <https://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/voteinor.aspx>

HISTORY OF denim day

In 1997 in Italy, an 18-year-old girl was raped by her 45-year-old driving instructor, who was later convicted and sentenced to jail. The perpetrator appealed the sentence and his case made it all the way to the Italian Supreme Court where the case was overturned. The instructor was released and the Head Judge released a statement arguing that because she wore tight jeans, he assumed that she must have helped him remove her jeans and, therefore consented. Enraged by the verdict, the women in the Italian Parliament launched into immediate action and protested by wearing jeans on the steps of the Italian Parliament building. This was the beginning of what has become a worldwide event and movement to wear jeans as a visible means of protest against misconceptions that surround sexual assault.

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. There will be lots of activities on the SOU campus. Our Branch members are invited to be a part of the Women's Resource Center Denim Day event on April 24 in the Student Union Courtyard. Everyone will be wearing denim and they will be talking to folks, giving out info and treats, and taking a group photo. The event will start at 11:30 am and the photo will be at 1 pm. Let's show the women of SOU our support and solidarity by showing up!

—Mimi Pippel, AAUW C/U Partnership Co-chair

INTEREST GROUPS

Contact the Coordinator to join a group.

Arts and Language

AFTERNOON MOVIE GROUP meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month to watch a movie at the Varsity or Ashland Street Cinemas. We meet in the lobby 10 minutes before the selected movie begins. If you wish, we can discuss the movie at a local hotspot afterward. The selected movie and the time are announced by email. *Coordinator: Jean Conger*

MUSICALS meets the 3rd Monday of the month at 4:30, usually at the home of Ed Perkins. Look for a group e-mail. *Coordinator: Diane Novak*

OPERA meets at 4 pm on the 1st Tuesday of each month at the home of Ed Perkins. The next meeting will be April 3. We will watch the 2018 Metropolitan Opera production of “Marnie” by Nico Muhly, based on the Winston Graham novella and Alfred Hitchcock movie. Bring food and wine or other beverage to share. *Coordinator: Nancy Kramarenko*

PLAY READING will begin “Indecent” by Paula Vogel on Friday, April 26 at Annette Lewis’s home. Bring a script and a nosh. We begin chatting about plays at 4 pm and reading soon after. *Coordinator: Annette Lewis*

SHAKESPEARE AT OSF meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 12:30 to 3:00 at Barbara Willson’s. This group includes those new to the topic and those with some background. We read, discuss, and view videos of the Shakespeare plays presented in the current season. We are presently reading “All’s Well That Ends Well.” We welcome participants at any time during the year. *Coordinators: Michaele Rae and Peggy Audibert*

Book Groups

BRAIN BOOKS will discuss “Sagebrush Collaboration: How Harney County, Oregon, Defeated the Takeover of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge” by Peter Walker (2018), on Tuesday, April 23, at 1:30 in Ashland Public Library. Book discusses takeover by Bundy group at Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in 2015–2016, and community response. *Coordinator: Sandra Coyner*

DAY NONFICTION We meet on the 1st Wednesday at 1 pm. Our April 3 meeting is at the home of Rosemary Adalian. She will lead us in discussing “Educated: a Memoir” by Tara Westover. *Coordinator: Linda Lipkind*

DAYTIME FICTION meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month in members’ homes. Currently our group size is so large we are not accepting new members. In April we will read “A Place on Earth” by Wendell Berry. For information, please call *Colleen Patrick-Riley*.

EVENING NONFICTION will meet on Wednesday, April 17 at 7 pm. Sherri Morgan will host and lead a discussion of “The Undoing Project” by Michael Lewis. *Coordinator: Ellen Fowler*

MONDAY EVENING FICTION will meet at Ellen Fowler’s home to discuss “An American Marriage” by Tayari Jones. Ellen will also be leading the discussion. *Coordinator: Shannon Stuver*

THURSDAY EVENING MYSTERY will meet on April 11 at 7 pm. Ann Cleaves’ book entitled “Dead Water” (A Shetland Mystery) will be discussed at the home of Rosemary Adalian. *Coordinator: Rosemary Adalian*

Games, Genealogy, Knitting & Dining

BOARD GAMES meets the 4th Wednesday at 7 pm: April 24. Katharine Lang will be hosting. *Coordinator: Sylvia Whitman*

GENEALOGY GROUP We meet at 1:30-3:30 pm on the 4th Thursday at the Jackson County Genealogy Library, 3405 S. Pacific Hwy., Medford. Our next meeting will be on April 25. Any AAUW Ashland member interested in genealogy is invited to join us in sharing family histories, stories, photos, and research tips. Beginners and experienced family researchers are equally welcome. *Coordinator: Linda Lipkind*



Daytime Fiction Group

KNITTERS AND STITCHERS will meet Thursday, April 11, 1–3 pm, at Peggy Auibert’s home. Please let Peggy know if you are coming, and bring a hand project to work on. *Coordinator: Peggy Audibert*

POTLUCK DINNERS will get together on Monday, April 22, at 6 pm at the home of Elaine Sweet. Please bring a dish to share and a bottle of wine (if you drink wine). The potlucks are casual but you do need to RSVP to Elaine if you want a chair to sit in at the table. *Coordinator: Elaine Sweet*



Watercolor by Rae Otto



March 2019

Julie Benezet and a panel of women leaders discussed, "Leading and Succeeding in the 21st Century"



Left to Right: Moderator Julie Benezet, Julie Gillis, Director of Development for SOPTV, Sheila Clough, CEO of Asante, and Jodi Rasor, Vice President of Dealership Accounting at Lithia Motors



Alice Mallory and Trish Acheatel



Catherine Lutes and Kathy Gorman

Ashland Vision

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

Vol. 33, No. 7 — April 2019

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

AAUW Ashland Website:

<http://ashland-or.aauw.net>

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.